



## ON SCREEN

Stuff of dreams as story comes to life



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## GREAT WAR

Reminders of conflict go on display



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### £3m fire station to open doors for public

THE new £3 million fire station in Cradley Heath will be showcased during an open day to the public.

Haden Cross station is hosting the day on September 6.

The station was built after the controversial merger of crews covering Halesowen and Cradley Heath.

One of the two 24 crews covering the area was axed in the move which came despite a campaign to save the Halesowen station from closure.

Crews began using the new facility at the start of August. There is also space for paramedics to be based at the station.

To mark the opening, crews will be holding a packed afternoon of activities from 2.30pm to 6pm.

There will be giant inflatable games, a carousel, a raffle, stalls and animals on show.

West Midlands Fire Authority chairman, Councillor John Edwards, said: "I'm pleased that we have kept our promise to local people when we embarked on this project to ensure there was a new station built."

The former Halesowen station in Hagley Road was sold for redevelopment and the Cradley Heath station, in Mace Street, is currently on the market.

### Police raid on cannabis home

THOUSANDS of pounds worth of cannabis were found in the cellar of a house after police were alerted to strong smells.

Officers raided the house in Sydney Road, Cradley Heath, shortly before 3.30pm on Tuesday. They discovered eight mature plants in the room and a quantity of herbal cannabis inside the property.

A 46-year-old man was arrested and has admitted possession of cannabis. He has received a police caution.

# £1.4m ARREARS SPARK CONCERN

**FIGURES revealing council house tenants in Dudley owe more than £1.4million in unpaid rent have been described as deeply concerning.**

There are currently around 5,435 households in arrears across the borough, council has said. It has been offering additional support to families struggling to make ends meet.

But the number of people in arrears has fallen compared with September last year, when more than 9,000 tenants were in arrears.

Reforms such as the 'bedroom tax' and the introduction of a benefit cap which came into force last year have been blamed for people falling behind on their payments.

The total amount owed to the council is £1,405,690.

Councillor Ken Finch, who represents Castle & Priory, one of Dudley's most deprived wards, said he was 'deeply concerned' by the figures.

#### Struggling

He said he was seeing an increase in the number of people with rent problems attending his weekly surgeries.

"The bedroom tax and other benefit reforms have really taken their toll."

"It's not just one cut but many that are affecting people. People are really struggling."

"We are seeing more and more people who are having problems paying their rent. But for every one we are seeing, I'm sure there are three or four more who are struggling in silence."

There has also been increased demand for the council's mortgage advice service which has helped more than 350 people dur-

By Heather Large

ing the past year. Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, said: "At the end of July 5,435 tenants were in arrears and the value was £1,405,690."

"If anyone is struggling to pay their rent it is important that they don't ignore it but contact us and we can help."

"We have income management officers who can talk through their problems with them, make sure that they are receiving all the of the benefits that they are entitled to and put together a manageable plan to help them pay off any arrears."

Figures released at the beginning of the year showed there were around 4,000 people on the waiting list for council properties in Dudley.

Of these, 2,091 were hoping for a one-bedroom property and 1,420 for a two-bedroom home with only 441 seeking a three-bedroom property and 143 a four-bedroom.

The number of calls taken by homeless charity Shelter from people struggling to pay for their homes in the West Midlands has soared by just more than 97 per cent in the past two years.

In the year to the end of March it had calls from 679 people.

## Alice reaches ripe old age of 104



Alice Whittall, who is celebrating her 104th birthday, shares a joke with Karen Welborn

SHE picked her own beans and tomatoes from her garden until the ripe age of 93. And this week Alice Whittall marked her 104th birthday at the care home she now stays in Tipton.

The great grandmother lived independently at home in Sutherland Road, Cradley Heath, until just two years ago.

Her son Ronald, aged 84, said her 'active spirit' and love for gardening had kept her healthy for so long.

He said: "She was extremely independent, always up and about and never far from her garden, where she grew all variations of vegetables. Only

until recently, when she suffered a few falls, has she had to be looked after and move into a care home."

Mrs Whittall was born to Elizabeth and John Thomas Golding in Park Lane, Cradley.

She had four brothers called Fred, Isiah, William and George, and a sister called Blanche.

After leaving school, Mrs Whittall made buckets at a factory called Tinsley, Cradley Heath. She married Thomas Whittall in 1928 and they moved to Old Hill in 1936. They had one child, Ronald.

In the 1960s, the family moved to

Sutherland Road, where Mrs Whittall remained until two years ago. Her husband died in 1984.

The couple were members of the Darby and Joan Club, which was based at Overend Methodist Church off Banners Lane.

She was moved to Roxburgh House Care Home two years ago, before going to Ryland View Nursing Home this March. Her nurse, Stella Paskin, said: "Alice is an absolute darling."

Ronald, a retired systems analyst, said: "She is such an inspiration to have for a mother, I'm proud to say she is mine."

### Parking fears over college revamp

A SCHEME to build a multi-million arts centre at Halesowen College faces objections from residents concerned about congested nearby roads.

The college unveiled proposals to create a £3 million performing arts centre at its Whittingham Road campus. It is the latest stage of work which is seeing £20 million invested in replacing outdated buildings.

But some residents have concerns over the proposals, which have been lodged with Dudley Council's planning department.

They hinge on claims neighbouring roads are congested by traffic, including cars parked by students and staff.

Among the objectors is Woodridge Road resident Amy Parry, who wrote: "It's irresponsible to build more college buildings without adequate parking for students. As residents we have all had enough."

Another resident wrote: "Halesowen College keeps being extended when there are already objections raised regarding on street parking by staff and students."

College bosses said the scheme would cut the number of journeys made by students off site. In a planning document, consultants said: "There will be no net increase in students."

### Roadworks speed limit

A SPEED limit of 20mph limit will be in place while resurfacing work is carried out on a main route in Halesowen next week.

The speed limit will be in force on the westbound side of Manor Way - towards Hayley Green - on September 3 and 4.

One lane of the dual carriageway will also be shut to traffic.

The resurfacing work will be carried out between 9.30am and 3.30pm each day.

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# Memorial ride for cancer victim



Brandon Carter

MORE than 200 motorbikers will be taking part in a memorial ride on Sunday in memory of a cancer victim.

Brandon Carter, from Colley Gate, Cradley, died in May aged just 27 after a battle against the effects of terminal lung cancer.

Friends of his uncle David Brenton helped set up an event for him in January to give him the chance to ride on a Harley Davidson bike as one of his dying wishes.

Around 400 riders attended the ride

which set off from the Streetbike dealership, in Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, to a bikers cafe in Quatt, near Bridgnorth.

And now the organisers hope to attract riders to take part in a similar. It will help raise money for Macmillan cancer care at Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The ride is taking place as many of the group were unable to attend the burial, which took place in Eastbourne where Mr Carter originally lived. Organiser, Wendy

Abbey, herself a keen biker, said the group wanted to paid their respects and added the event would be a fitting send off.

"We have already had 200 riders sign up and we think there will be more beforehand as well," said Mrs Abbey, aged 59, from Forest Road, Dudley.

Donations are being made per bike, with cash being donated to the hospital where Mr Carter received his care. The ride will set off from Streetbike at around 9.30am.

# Sadness at closure of historic Cook Shop

ONE hundred and twenty five years of family history will end when a shop closes its doors for the final time on Saturday.

Customers and staff at Old Hill's historic The Cook Shop have been left distraught after discovering it will shut for good.

Despite a national appeal for a buyer to take on the shop and its staff – as well as secret recipes for Black Country dishes such as fag-gots and Groaty Dick that have been in the same family for generations – no-one has come forward.

Owner Nigel Brazier, whose family has run the shop since 1889, launched the hunt for a buyer after he announced his retirement earlier this year.

But no interested parties could be found and now The Cook Shop will disappear from Old Hill.

He said: "It's been such an emotional trip for me. Everyone in the shop has been crying, begging me not to go, literally in their hundreds.

### Drained

"People have been hugging me, crying, asking what they will do and where they will go now, and asking me if I have to go.

"I'm emotionally drained. It's hard to believe the selling of a shop could create so much emotion."

Mr Brazier, aged 64, has himself been in the shop for the whole of his life, helping his mother Iris out when he was younger, during school holidays, and became the first male owner when he took over aged 21.

The Cook Shop is so well known that he says he has been getting calls from as far away as Scotland, Wales and Yorkshire to pass on their best wishes.

He added: "Everyone is wishing me well, but they are also wishing I wouldn't close."

When the shop first went up for sale for £120,000, Mr Brazier said he would give it four to five months before he considered closing it.

He wanted to sell it on as it currently is, and would not consider selling the building alone for development, but said he has had such



Owner Nigel Brazier outside The Cook Shop in Old Hill

little interest, with only two people coming to look around, that he has now taken the decision to shut.

His staff have been given redundancy pay and some have already managed to find new jobs, while the building will now go up for general sale.

Also on sale were his family recipes, which have been kept a closely guarded secret since Mr Brazier's great-grandmother Eve Billingham opened the shop in Old Hill High Street in 1889.

But after failing to find a suitable home, Mr Brazier is now considering penning a book featuring

the instructions to make those sought-after dishes.

He said: "It would be very nice if I can, in the next 12 months, write a book about the shop's history and put a recipe with every chapter.

"But at the moment I am taking them with me."

The shop will close its doors for the final time next Saturday, at 1.30pm, and is expected to finish with a small party.

Mr Brazier, who describes the shop as a Black Country delicatessen, said: "We've got to go out with a party, haven't we?"

"We shall have food on the coun-



Old Hill Trinity Church Sunday School passes by in the 50s

# Launch of talks for history society

A NEW series of talks, including one by a Black Country raconteur, is returning next week.

Halesowen History Society has created a packed programme of talks for its new season.

The society, which meets at the Shenstone Theatre, Halesowen Library on the first Thursday night of the month, has lined up a range of speakers.

Secretary Carol Taylor said: "We are all looking forward to our new season of speakers which starts in September.

"Our first meeting will be on September 4 at 7.30pm and as usual everyone is welcome and there is a small charge of £1 for non members."

She added: "Our first speakers is the well known local raconteur John Sparry, he will be talking about Interesting Events of 1937 knowing John, it should be a very entertaining evening.

"Looking forward to seeing our members after the summer break, and hopefully some new faces too."

The society, which was established 36 years ago, also runs annual school project competition which this year was won by Windsor High School.

# Break-in police find cannabis

POLICE investigating a burglary found what is believed to be a cannabis factory.

Officers responded to reports of a raid at an industrial unit in Trinity Street, Old Hill, at 9.20am on August 19. But while they were there, they could smell cannabis, and went to investigate.

It led them to garages at the back of Mace Street, and inside one they discovered a small amount of the drug.

The cannabis was confiscated by the police officers, but no arrests have yet been made.

# Dancing classes

A LINE dancing class is starting up in Stourbridge for beginners and those returning to line dance on September 3 at St Michael's church hall, Maynard Avenue, Norton.

Classes run from 7.15 to 8.45pm and cost £3.20. Call Nigel on 01384 287551.

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# Unlicensed rubbish collectors warning

ENVIRONMENTAL bosses at Dudley Council wants borough residents to ensure that anyone collecting rubbish from their property is registered and will dispose of it responsibly.

The call comes during the busy summer period when people are carrying out gardening work such as cutting back trees and hedges and looking to dispose of large amounts of waste.

Councillor Hilary Bills said anyone who is not a registered carrier of waste is likely to fly-tip their rubbish.

She said: "We would urge people to ensure they use registered waste carriers who will dispose of the rubbish responsibly.

"Paying someone to take it away who is not registered is likely to lead to the rubbish being fly-tipped which leads to a cost to the taxpayer."

Residents in the borough are also encouraged to use the fortnightly green waste recycling collection to dispose of smaller garden waste, while household waste can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre in Birmingham Street, Stourbridge. The centre is open from 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday and 8am to 4pm on weekends.

## England coach to speak at DK

ENGLAND'S Rugby Union head coach Stuart Lancaster is to speak at a fund-raising event in the Black Country.

Dudley Kingswinford RFC is presenting an evening of rugby talk on September 19 at 7.30pm at its Heathbrook ground. Radio 5 Live presenter Pat Murphy is also taking part.

Tickets are £60, which include a three-course meal and welcome drink. Tables of 10 are also available for £550

Email [dkrfclancaster@gmail.com](mailto:dkrfclancaster@gmail.com) or call 07779 923687.

## Club for auction

A former snooker club in Rowley Regis will go up for auction in Birmingham.

The Golden Cue Snooker Club, Regis House, Station Road, has a guide price of £265,000 in the CPBigwood auction on October 23 in the Holte Suite at Aston Villa's Villa Park ground at 11am.



William George Carradinewas the goalkeeper for the Colley Gate (Providence Meth-



The grave of Frederick Timbrell, who died July 5 1919

# History of war heroes found in graves clean up

by Adam Grinsell

**WHEN** Norman Catton and his team first started to clear St Peter's churchyard in Cradley, they had expected to find only 12 war graves and memorial stones.

But as more of the six-feet-high bramble was cut away they revealed almost double that number – with the possibility of more yet to be uncovered.

Those already unearthed include men who fell in both World Wars, such as James Southall, who died on August 23 1916 in France, and Norman Bache, who was killed in active service aged 31 on Boxing Day 1944.

And there was one major surprise, when the volunteers even discovered a memorial headstone dating back to 1900 which honours William Harrison, of the Third Battalion Grenadier Guards, who was killed aged 26 in Pretoria, South Africa, during the Boer War.

Those who served but died in other circumstances are also buried there, such as George William Harris, a 'Bevin Boy' who was conscripted to work in the Jubilee Colliery, formerly off Birmingham Road, and who died in a mining accident.

The stories of these brave men and soldiers are slowly now being pieced together by researchers involved with the St Peter's project, some of which are set to be released in a book by local researcher Terry Evans.

That research has been inspired by Mr Catton and his team of around 20 volunteers, including the Rev Katryn Leclezio, members of the Princes Trust and those who joined as part of the Probation Service's community payback scheme.

They worked tirelessly to ensure the graves were ready in time for a special ceremony marking 100 years since the start of the First World War, which was held in the churchyard.

Mr Catton, aged 79 and who himself served with the Royal Engineers, said: "It all started six or seven years ago when an elderly lady came to me on Remembrance Day.

"She couldn't get to her father's grave. He had served in the First World War.

"She told me roughly where it was, and it



Dennis Rose, aged 70, at the grave of his grandfather, James South-



**Mark Carpenter and his father George** Carpenterat the grave of become overrun like some of the others. He said: "We came up some time ago and the whole place was overgrown, it is a pleasure now to see it like this.

"Gradually as we've gone along we've come across graves that we were not aware of," Mr Catton said, "like the one from the Boer War.

"I'm very proud of what we've done, and I just hope that the people of Cradley don't let their graveyard get into that bad state again."

The families of those buried there are also grateful for the work done by the volunteers, such as George Carpenter, 84, from Long Lane, Halesowen, whose father Victor is one of those laid to rest in the yard.

Mr Carpenter says the bramble was beginning to encroach on his father's grave, but thanks to volunteers such as his nephew Steven Baker it thankfully did not



The grave of C Russell, who died June 12 1946



**the grave of James Alfred Kirtan, died 21st April 1915**

pital in Dorset, where he died. Victor was buried in St Peter's as that is where he had made home with his wife Nellie.

Another of those whose stories have been revealed is Second Flight Lieutenant William Carradine. He had just passed his flying courses and was taking off for a run on July 30 1918 when his engine failed.

The plane crashed and he was killed, aged just 24.

William had been a pupil at Colley Lane School, and was the goalkeeper for the Colley Gate Sunday School team which won the Cradley Heath League Second Division Championship in the 1912/13 season.

Stoker First Class Charles Fowkes was one of those to die even though the fighting had stopped with the Armistice.

Born in Brierley Hill, he served served on the HMS Conflict.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Foodbank staff are top brains

STAFF and volunteers at Black Country Foodbank have won an annual quiz.

The team of four saw off competition from 14 other teams representing voluntary groups and charities from across Dudley borough.

It won the title Volunteering Brains of Dudley Borough.

The Foodbank team last picked up the trophy in 2009.

Anyone who would like donate items can view suitable food products and locations at [www.black-countryfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.black-countryfoodbank.org.uk).

### Call to runners for charity race

Kinver Rotary Club is making final preparations for its annual 10k race which includes a 2k children's fun run.

More than 200 runners are already expected to take part on October 5.

Proceeds from the event go to , Action Heart, at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital.

It costs £12 for UK affiliated club members and £14 for those not attached to a club. Entry forms can be found on [www.action-heartrunning.com](http://www.action-heartrunning.com)

### Society to talk about old group

ONE of the Black Country's oldest organisations will be the subject of a history talk next month.

Don Cochrane will be speaking at the first meeting of Stourbridge Historical Society after the summer break on September 18.

His talk is called A History of the Stourbridge Institute. The society meets at the Wollaston Room, Stourbridge Town Hall.

### New homes for former factory

A former garden ornament factory will be knocked down to make way for new homes.

J&M Grafton has submitted plans to demolish the block in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal.

In its place, the developer will build 10 one and two bedroom apartments. The buildings were used until December 2012.

### Candle shop opens

A SPECIALIST candle shop has opened at Merry Hill, creating sevenjobs. Yankee Candle welcomed shoppers on Friday. Simply Be and Jacamo has announced plans for a store, creating around 30 jobs.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



MORE sightings of unusual names of legal firms. In Sligo, Ireland, a reader discovered Argue & Pibbbs.

THERE must be an election coming. Why else would the Government promise a new law to jail those who use non-violent "controlling behaviour" in relationships? It is a promise rich in good intentions and fine sound bites but almost impossible to turn into solid prosecutions. For starters, what about those cultures which regard a wife as the property of her husband? If you can't control your own property, what is British justice coming to? (And if you disagree with that you're insulting my culture).

DAVID Cameron says every Government policy should pass a "family-friendly" test. So he's abolishing inheritance tax, then? Thought not.

NICHOLAS Parsons declares that he's fed up with scruffy open-necked shirts and says it's time to bring back the cravat. I do hope not. The only person you should trust less than a man wearing a bowtie is a man wearing a cravat.

SANDRA Howard, the 74-year-old model and wife of former Tory leader Michael, writes a joyous column about the photograph taken of Lauren Bacall when she was 85 trilling: "Every line on her proud, defiant face is a lesson in how to embrace growing old." No it isn't. Every line is a reminder how unkind old age can be to once-beautiful women. If Bacall or any other former beauty could be magically given the face she had at 35, I bet they'd go for it like a shot. Women celebrating wrinkles is like blokes celebrating an enlarged prostate.

THE mayor of Rome, Ignazio Marino, has accused our Foreign Office of exaggerating the danger of pickpockets in his city. He may have a point. In my limited experience, the official advice, coupled with dire warnings from tour guides, makes you so paranoid about pickpockets in Rome that you entirely overlook the individuals who will rob you blind, time and again. They are called head waiters.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Traders lose fight to scrap 10p parking fee

**TRADERS who said their business in Cradley Heath had almost halved since the introduction of parking fees for shoppers, have lost their bid for them to be scrapped.**

Council bosses are proposing to introduce a 10p fee for 15 minutes at their car parks, which they say will help boost passing trade. But as part of the work they have blocked off parking spaces, which shopkeepers say has hit their businesses hard.

By Heather Large

A petition was launched by traders after charges for long-stay parking were introduced at council car parks in Cradley Heath last October.

They were calling for one hour's free parking saying business had slumped by more than 40 per cent leaving them thousands of pounds out of pocket.

The charges introduced at five car parks in the town range from 40p for an hour to £2 for four hours.

Traders wanted the free hour to allow shoppers to drop off goods at charity shops and collect ordered items.

In their petition, the traders added: "Local residents complain about congested parking in side streets, especially by those working in Cradley Heath."

But the council's area director for street scene, Steve Handley, said not charging could lead to there being a

shortage of spaces. He said: "There are potentially significant risks associated with not charging on the car parks in Cradley Heath."

"These include town centre workers being discouraged from using other means of transport, resulting in less parking spaces being available for shoppers and visitors."

"Before parking charges were introduced there was a regular shortage of parking spaces that generated inconsiderate parking on the highway."

But Old Hill and Cradley Heath businessman Tony Billingham, who backed the campaign, said 10p was 'hardly worth charging'.

"It's proven that the way to regenerate town centres is to introduce free parking."

The plans were due to be discussed today (Thursday).

## Roadworks cost shops money



Takings are down for Linda Wilson and Toni Sawyer

TRADERS in Old Hill say roadworks have forced shoppers away and turned the centre into a ghost town.

National Grid began work to replace a mains pipe in Halesowen Road more than a week ago.

But it has blocked off parking spaces along the street, which shopkeepers say has hit their businesses.

The two areas can be used by around six cars at a time for up to an hour at no charge.

Toni Sawyer, aged 29, who runs Wishes Cards, said her takings were down by 50 per cent because people could no longer stop.

"There are seven businesses which rely on these spaces. People can park there and visit several shops, they don't need very long," she said.

Linda Wilson, who runs Digital Photo Shop, said: "I don't object to the work being done, but there is now no free parking. A lot of traders rely on passing trade."

National Grid spokeswoman Jane Taylor said there would be another week of work.

## Tweeted toilet is kicking up a stink

A COUNCIL and rail company are in talks over the future of one of the worst rail station toilets in the West Midlands.

Facilities at Sandwell and Dudley station were so bad they prompted Twitter user Ryan Cudlipp to take a picture of the metal bowl and wooden seat and post it online.

The loo in question is believed to be the responsibility of Sandwell Council although normally such conveniences are down to rail companies to keep in good order.

Sandwell's environment boss Councillor Maria Crompton, is looking into it.

### Working

She said: "Sandwell Council is currently negotiating with representatives from Network Rail and Centro regarding responsibility for future maintenance and cleansing services at the Sandwell and Dudley train station toilets."

London Midland spokeswoman Lindsey Preece said: "We have been working in partnership with Centro, Network Rail and the council to look at ways to keep the toilets open for passengers."

"These discussions are still on going."

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## Funding boost for troubled families

HUNDREDS of families across Dudley will be offered help as part of a Government scheme aimed at tackling problems which are often passed from generation to generation.

Dudley Council has become one of only two authorities in the West Midlands to be awarded more funding towards its troubled families programme.

The cash will be provided in a bid to encourage more children to return to school and get more adults back into work.

Practical support will include CV writing, job interview skills and highlight training opportunities and job vacancies in the area. They will also put families in contact with local employers.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet member for children's services, said: "The extra funding will allow more families in Dudley to benefit from the programme with further support for families affected by domestic violence and those suffering with a range of health problems."

The programme also aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and council chiefs will be looking to cut crime and tackle issues such as teenage pregnancies.

The scheme has been running for three years in Dudley and the council has been particularly successful in this work.

# Delight for students with their GCSE exams success

**THOUSANDS of teenagers across Dudley and Sandwell have been celebrating a bumper crop of GCSE results.**

Nationally the proportion of GCSEs awarded a C or higher rose for the first time in three years, but figures also showed large swings in English and maths results.

At Windsor High School and Sixth Form, Halesowen, 74 per cent of pupils gained five A\*-C grades and 23 per cent of grades were at A\*-A.

Headteacher Keith Sorrell said: "These are great results again this year. I am very proud of all our students and congratulate them and the staff on such excellent performance."

"I am particularly pleased with the big increase in A\* and A grades this year overall and 20 students gained 8 or more A\*-A grades."

At Ormiston Forge Academy, Cradley Heath, 56 per cent of year 11 students achieved five A\*-C grades including English and Maths. And 73 per cent of students achieved 5 A\*-C grades, this is in spite of declining national trends. This represented a 12 per cent increase on the five A\*-C grades including English and maths from last year.

Notable achievements included: Liane Southall 7-A\*, 4-A, 1-B; Halima Sultana 5-A\*, 3-A, 4-B; Stephanie Hudson 5-A\*, 4-A; Katherine Jeffery 3-A\*, 3-A, 6-B; Tyla Allen



Arthur Heung, Ollie Mann, Cameron Harrison, from Old Swinford Hospital School

2-A\*, 4-A, 2-B; Kieran Toland 2-A\*, 8-A, 2-B; Moosa Rehman 2-A\*, 3-A, 3-B and Hayley Munn 1-A\*, 7-A, 4-B.

The overall pass rate for English and maths was 94 per cent. The maths improvement saw an eight per cent increase on last year to 61% this year, plus a record number of A\*s.

Principal Andrew Burns, said: "We are incredibly proud of our students who have worked hard

in their GCSE studies to achieve these results." He added: "I am especially pleased that the levels of progress continue to show a strong year-on-year improvement, this reflects the overall performance of every student in every subject."

Dr Lisa Mason, vice principal for Key Stage 4, said: "I congratulate them all."

At Old Swinford Hospital School some of the outstanding achievements came from Oliver Mann,

from Stourbridge, who gained nine A\*s, Arthur Heung, from Wolverhampton, who got four grade A\*s, five grade A and one grade B, and Cameron Harrison, from Stourbridge, who got 2 grade A\*s, 4 grade A and 4 grade B.

At Heathfield School, Wolverley, 86 per cent of pupils achieved five or more A\*-C grades including English and maths with a 100 per cent pass rate.

For the third year in a row the

percentage rate increased with 76 per cent of subjects taken graded at A\*, A or B. Two pupils at the school passed all subjects at A\*.

At Hagley Catholic High School 80 per cent of pupils secured five or more A\*-C grades, including English & maths.

In maths 89 per cent achieved A\*-C grades, 88 per cent achieved A\*-C in English and 86 per cent of pupils secured A\*-C in at least one of the sciences.



Ormiston Forge Academy student Liane Southall

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Security firms to help raided club

TWO security companies have pledged their support to help fortify a raid-hit football ground in Halesowen.

Thieves caused thousands of damage at the home of Halesowen Town football club during a break in earlier last week.

Volunteers rallied around to tidy up the The Grove Stadium ahead of their first home game of the season - a 1-1 draw against Belper Town.

Club chairman Colin Brookes confirmed two firms had come forward to help install new security measures.

Police are still investigating the break in where hundreds of pounds of spirits were stolen from the bar and two televisions worth £800.

### Nursery to hold an open day

A DAY nursery due to be opened next month in Cradley Heath will hold an open day for parents.

Debbie Day Care will be opened on School Street alongside the Debonair Dance Academy, which is also owned by Debbie Baggett who will run the day care.

The fun day will take place on Sunday between 12pm and 4pm and Debbie.

Parents with children aged two to five should go along to see what the day care has to offer.

Debbie said the event will feature a bouncy castle with games and stalls for children as well as information on the day nursery.

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## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

YES, celebrity biopics seem to be all the rage at the moment. And ITV's tribute to the late Tommy Cooper was one of the most poignant and moving things on television this year. But the Cilla Black story? Really, really, isn't that just stretching things a little bit too far?

As far as I'm concerned, the Cilla Black story essentially boils down to this: made a noise like a strangled cat for a few years, then went on to spend the 1980s presenting two of the most dreadful, cringe-making programmes ever to appear on our television screens.

If that's what they call 'original, quality drama', then I must be Twigg.

□□□

INCIDENTALLY, Cilla says she knows Sir Cliff Richard is innocent of an allegation of sex abuse, because she 'has known him for a million years'.

Well, I knew they were both knocking on a bit, but I have to say that came as a little bit of a surprise.

□□□

THE NHS, provider of free medical care from cradle to grave. Unless it's dentistry, it seems. During my last visit to an NHS dentist, I was told that I needed a crown. And that it would cost £290.

How much? When they said the NHS was 'free at the point of delivery', I thought they meant free of charge. Not three-hundred quid.

□□□

TRYING to drum up support for the by-election for the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner last week, a leaflet came through the door bearing the words: "The criminals of the West Midlands will be hoping you stay at home on August 21."

Yes, it's a lovely sentiment, democracy, power to the people and all that. But cynical Black Country man that I am, I can't help but thinking that many of the criminals of the West Midlands were hoping that people would go out and vote on Thursday. So they could burgle their homes while they were out.

□□□

WHAT would you say is the biggest problem gripping Europe at the moment? The crisis in the Ukraine? Or what about the barbaric activities in Iraq and Syria? Nah, the European Union has immediately grasped the number one threat facing us all. From September 1, there will be a ban on the manufacture or importation of all vacuum cleaners with motors more powerful than 1,600 watts.

Apparently, it is about saving the environment. Although I doubt it will do much for the environment of the houses which are now being forced to use puny vacuum cleaners.

Still, those Eurocrats, they know what they're talking about. Wouldn't want their maids getting ideas above their station, would they?



Author Steve Watson, from Stourbridge



A poster advertising the film to be launched next week



The film stars Colin Firth and Nicole Kidman

# Stuff of dreams as story comes to life

Hollywood's depiction of a debut novel has excited its Black Country writer, as he tells **ADAM BURLING**

**HIS debut novel has been translated into more than 30 languages and spent a year on the bestseller list – and now the star-studded film adaptation is about to hit cinemas across the country.**

It's the stuff of dreams for most budding writers – and Steve Watson admits he has to pinch himself 'almost every day'.

The author, from Stourbridge, wrote *Before I Go To Sleep* while working as an audiology specialist at St Thomas' Hospital in London.

It went on to become one of 2010's best-selling novels – and had film makers battling it out for the rights.

Now the finished article, starring Nicole Kidman and Colin Firth, is being released in UK cinemas on September 5.

And Mr Watson is watching from afar as the tale he spent years working becomes the talking point of the movie industry.

He says: "I've seen it about nine times now and I'm just as excited as anyone else. It feels like somebody else's project now and I can just enjoy the excitement around the film."

"It's wonderful to see everyone is so enthusiastic about it, but it does feel like it isn't anything to do with me, which I think in a way is a good thing."

Mr Watson, a former pupil at The Wordsley School and King Edward VI Sixth Form College in Stourbridge, wrote the novel under the name SJ Watson.

He has given the film his blessing and spent a number of days on set in London during filming. And he admits he was relieved that, despite a few changes to the



Oscar winning Nichole Kidman who stars in *Before I Go To Sleep*

plot, the film has remained faithful to his novel. "I am very lucky as the film is great – it's everything I could have wished for and more," he says.

"I'm a huge fan of the old-fashioned thrillers where it's not all based on technology but it's more about the central performances, and that's what this is like."

"It is in the tradition of Hitchcock and film noir."

Kidman and Firth are joined by Mark Strong, playing Dr Nash, and Anne-Marie Duff. The movie is directed by

Rowan Joffe, who wrote the screenplay for *28 Weeks Later*.

Mr Watson started writing the book as a hobby while working as an audiology specialist in London.

Kidman plays Christine Lucas, who wakes up to find she does not recognise her life, while Firth plays her husband Ben. Each day Christine wakes up and remembers nothing about her life.

But as she becomes involved with Dr Edmund Nash, she is led on a journey to find out what has happened to her.

For someone who wrote the story during a sabbatical from work, Mr Watson says it is difficult to come to terms with seeing a star like Kidman get 'under the skin' of a character he created.

He says: "She knows Christine better than me now."

"There is one scene – it's near the end of the film so I won't give it away – and the first time I saw it, I was just watching all the nuances that I could imagine when I originally wrote it reflected in her face."

"She is a great actor and has completely made the role her own."

Now living in London, he is finishing his follow-up novel *Second Life*, which is due for release in February.

He says it is another psychological thriller centred around 'obsession, addiction and grief', telling the story of a woman who becomes obsessed with finding out why her sister was violently killed – taking her to 'some dark places'.

"Though he felt plenty of pressure to match the success of *Before I Go To Sleep*, he realised he needed to write what came naturally to him, rather than 'cynically trying to come up with something popular'."

"The first book was such a phenomenon that the new one could do very well and still be judged a failure in comparison," he admits.

"It is important to have the confidence to write what comes from deep within – it's what I've done so far and it's got me here."

When his debut novel was released, Mr Watson says he had not decided whether to return to his day job. But he is now coming to terms with life as a full-time writer and says he feels 'incredibly fortunate' to have ended up doing what he loves for a living.

Kidman, who undertook extensive research for her role, said: "I watched a number of documentaries where people do have this psychogenic amnesia."

"The idea of actually having this is horrifying. Someone described it as like losing their soul."

## WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

IT was disheartening to see the war of words between Tory MP Chris Kelly and Labour councillor Pete Lowe over the Black Country flag.

Mr Kelly reckons organisers of the hugely-successful Black Country Festival should have sourced them locally, or at least in the UK, rather than from Taiwan. Councillor Lowe, standing as Parliamentary candidate in Stourbridge next year, makes the valid point that there was not a lot of time to get so many flags and that we happened to see them flown all over the world in the run-up to and after the festival.

But then he slightly spoils it by saying: "Why a millionaire Tory would want to try and pick fault with the best community-led festival in years is beyond me."

That's a bit of a cheap shot. An MP is entitled to his opinion whether he's wealthy or not. And it is nothing to do with which political party he's from either. Labour MPs such as Warley's John Spellar have championed producing things in Britain too.

I don't agree with Mr Kelly's point, although I can see where he's coming from. After all, when we're flying the flag for an area that's proud of making things, it's ironic that it carries a label saying it's made in Taiwan.

However, he is probably nit-picking unnecessarily when you consider just how good the festival was and what it's done for pride in where we're from and what we've achieved.

But one of the best things about it was how it was a real community effort backed by councillors of all parties in all boroughs. This was an event all about celebrating our common ground. What a shame it's been used as a political football.

One thing I'd like to see the new police and crime commissioner for the West Midlands David Jamieson to do is lobby the Home Office for a change in the legislation on what happens when a 'vacancy' occurs.

I use the quote marks because that's a rather clinical and unfeeling way of describing the death of an incumbent. Bob Jones had only passed away a few hours before councillors were forced to discuss the process for a by-election owing to a rule within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act that required it be held within 35 days.

That left us in the situation of people going to the polls in August when a lot of people are away. Those who were around to vote weren't interested in doing so. A little more time to plan the election, spread the word, hold public meetings and explain what the role is even for might have made a difference.

As it stands the Government will be able to shrug off the poor turnout as being the time of year, rather than a sign that, two years on people still don't really know what the PCC role is all about.

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## Researching names on Great War plaque

WITH the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War, I am researching eight young men named on the memorial plaque in Trinity Methodist Chapel (formally known as the Wesleyan) in Church Road, Netherton, Dudley.

I hope to be able to create a record of these boys, who they were, where they lived, what their occupations were, etc, and where they gave their lives.

The names are: Frederick W Carpenter, Rev William Dimmock, James Green, Bert Grove, Solomon Hale, Joseph Priest, Sam-

## A memorial to entertainment

THE chances of Dudley Hippodrome reopening one day are nil was the conclusion of a meeting held to discuss the future of the old theatre. It has stood empty since the bingo club closed.

Asbestos in the building has to be removed before any reopening. The cost to do this is an expensive operation. Where the cash to do this would come from is a problem. So the old theatre looks to stand empty as a memorial to variety entertainment.

**NORMAN ROBINS**  
Brierley Hill

## Repeat dose

IT is bad enough that we have to have so many repeats on television but now we are getting them the very next day! Having enjoyed a programme on a Sunday night I found it is on again on Monday night.

Harry Hill used to be on Saturday and Sunday, just a repeat from the day before. Match of the Day is on Saturday nights and again on Sunday morning. There are many more. Economy is one thing, taking paying customers for fools is another.

**J JAMES**  
Wordsley

uel J Ward and William Ward. I have found information from the CWG website and also from censuses for some of them, others no definite connections and some two or three possibilities for the same name, so I am appealing to your readership for information about any of them and would especially like to hear from any descendants.

I can be contacted by email on [jonesg6@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jonesg6@blueyonder.co.uk) or by phone on 01384 837281.

Thanking all respondents in advance.  
**G JONES, Kingswinford**

## How to cut car crashes

IT seems almost daily now that news of a vehicle crashing into a stationary building is reported.

Having seen so many reasons for accidents happening which are really laughable, I would love to see the excuses given for these new accidents.

In reality though, seeing some of the photographs, it would appear that the majority have been due to speed and lack of control of the vehicles involved.

After all, the buildings concerned cannot have suddenly jumped out in front of the vehicles.

Perhaps it is now time that all road vehicles be equipped with black boxes in order to see what really happened.

After all, the insurance claims are costing each and every one of us dearly.

**L HALES**

Cradley Heath

## The hazards of parking

I HAD reason to visit Castle Grove, Oldswinford, and the cars parked were seriously blocking the road.

I drive a small car and could hardly pass so heaven help an ambulance or fire engine. Are these people so unaware of the problem they are causing, day-in day-out, or are they just too idle to park further away and walk? A simple remedy is to ban parking between 1pm and 2pm so avoiding all-day parking. I am sure a traffic warden would see these vehicles as a hazard.

**C WILLIAMS**  
Brierley Hill

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### E-MAIL

[Dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:Dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk)

## We need to stand up for community against store plans

OVER recent years across the Black Country we have seen the closure of scores of traditional local pubs.

Banks' Brewery, or whatever it's now called, is one of the prime culprits.

The drive to please its shareholders means profit is put before community time and time again.

To change a pub to a Tesco Express doesn't necessarily need planning permission, so the community and the local council don't get their say.

The brewery should recognise the powerful position it is in and the impact of these profit driven decisions on our local communities.

The Seven Stars pub in Sedgley is the latest rumoured to be under threat.

At the very least the brewery should be meeting with local councillors and residents to explain its plans, but more importantly, to listen to their views and consider alternative options.

If we don't begin to stand up for our local communities then before long we'll have a Sainsbury's Local on every other street corner, instead of the local pubs that are so important to community cohesion.

**COUNCILLOR DAVE BRANWOOD**  
Gornal Ward

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## Diamond couple celebrate with a kiss



The happy diamond couple Brenda and Donald Doherty celebrate at their home in Halesowen

It was a chance meeting while collecting the morning newspaper that has led to a lifetime of happiness for a diamond couple.

Don Doherty was making the trip from the newsagents when he first laid eyes on Brenda who worked at the local grocers - as she got off the number 10 bus to walk the last few yards to work.

As love blossomed he would even help his mother Lillian carry the shopping just so he could meet Brenda.

And now 60 years later Mr and Mrs Doherty, now aged 82 and 80 respectively, marked their marriage milestone with a celebration with family and friends.

The couple both grew up in Quinton. Brenda worked at Wrenson grocers in Court Oak Road, Quinton, before leaving to work at Cadbury's.

Don plucked up the courage for their

first date to take her to the pictures on Valentine's Day in 1951 at Warley Odeon. They were engaged during his RAF leave when Brenda was aged 18.

They married at The Oratory Church, in Hagley Road, Edgbaston, on August 21, 1954. It was around four months before they finally had the keys to their home in Longmoor Road, Halesowen, where they still live.

The couple both worked at Firth Vickers, Narrow Lane, Halesowen, before Don finished his career at car manufacturers Austin at Longbridge.

The couple have two daughters, Anne, aged 53, and Jayne, 48, and two grandchildren. Brenda returned to work as her children grew older spending 22 years at Makro, Halesowen.

"We have a happy life together. It all about a bit of give and take," Mrs Doherty said.



The couple on their wedding day

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# Liz fashions her latest cancer charity campaign

**A FUNDRAISER** from Halesowen has joined forces with Channel 4 for her latest campaign.

Liz Shiels, who works as a local fundraising manager for Cancer Research UK, has launched Stand Up To Cancer with the television channel.

The 31-year-old is urging people around the region to help raise money for cancer research by donning clothes and accessories to raise awareness.

Stand Up To Cancer encourages people to sport a wide range of fashionable clothes, as well as accessories including face 'tattoos', and culminates in a live fundraiser on Channel 4 in October.

Miss Shiels had her own cancer scare at the age of 27 when a 13cm tumour was found in her shoulder.

## Scary

She was diagnosed with osteochondroma, which is a benign bone tumour, after surgery at Birmingham's Royal Orthopaedic Hospital to remove it and part of her shoulder.

She said: "I still remember how scary it was when we thought my tumour might be cancerous."

"Sadly, not everyone is as lucky as me and that's why I want to do all I can to get everyone in the West Midlands to Stand Up To Cancer."

"We need to fight back by raising money so that brilliant research can be translated into treatments which will help patients faster."

"We have the technology and the knowledge to conquer cancer; we just need the funds to turn it into real-life treatments."

The live TV fundraiser on October 17 will come just days after thousands



Campaigner Liz Shiels has launched Stand Up To Cancer

of people in several cities around the UK join the sponsored 'March on Cancer'.

Millions of people are expected to tune in for a night of live TV on Chan-

nel 4 hosted by Davina McCall, Alan Carr and Dr Christian Jessen.

For more information and to buy clothes or accessories, visit standuptocancer.org.uk

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# 10 Campaign to save pub gets backing

A HISTORY society member has become the latest objector to plans to demolish a Dudley pub.

George Blackham, of Sedgley Local History Society, has joined calls to preserve the King Arthur.

Jahorina Limited, which bought the pub on the corner of Birmingham New Road and Priory Road for more than £1.3 million, wants to flatten it.

It believes the 1930s building does not have a viable future as a pub and the site would be better used for a store.

But history enthusiasts have written to Dudley Council to lodge objections.

Mr Blackham said: "The late 1930s public house is situated at a 'gateway' to the centre of Dudley and its elevated position demands the retention of this striking building."

"The King Arthur is a fine example of a road-house facing the 1920s Wolverhampton to Birmingham dual carriageway."

The chairman of St John's Church Preservation Group, which is working to restore the church in Kates Hill, Deb Brownlee, and Christine Buckley, of All Saints Vicarage, Sedgley, have lodged objections.

But there have been letters of support for redevelopment. English Heritage decided against listed status due to loss of original features.

The pub, built in 1939, closed in 2012.

# Reminders from The Great War go on show

**HUNDREDS of items belonging to families from the Midlands are on display in Dudley, as part of a four-year exhibition paying tribute to the role of locals in the First World War.**

The two-part exhibition is packed full of items - all with local links.

The first mimics a High Street, with shop frontages as display cases, to represent the Home Front, while the second is a trench, complete with working periscopes and the thundering sounds of bombs and guns going off.

In the Home Front display, one of the most touching artefacts is the story of Beaty Westwood, who lived in Netherton, and her letters which were donated from her family who now live in Kinver.

Beaty was sent letters from her boyfriend, Tom Danks, also from Netherton. They are standard issue, and the soldiers had to cross out the sayings that applied to them.

Mr Danks' letter simply read 'I am quite well' with his signature and the date at the bottom.

Sadly like so many others, he didn't survive the war, so the pair never got the chance to continue their relationship.

Also in the display is the paper which was used to send Fred Holloway's 'personal effects' home to his family.

Included is a remarkably well-preserved wallet, which contains both English and French coins, as well as a 50 cent note



Sarah Blazejewski and Harvey Jones, aged seven, walk along the High Street display



The officers' mess re-enacted in one of the display cases at the museum in the area that depicts life in the trenches during the First World War

issued by the Bank of Amiens. Adrian Durkin, an exhibition officer at the museum, said: "On the back of the paper was another address so it seems like the Army reused the paper somehow. This display is possibly the most poignant one we have."

"There is also a picture that has been lent to us from the Simons family, who are related to Beaty Westwood. The family are quite artistic and there is a picture of Lord Kitchener, which was painted by Ernest Simons, their great uncle, when he was 15."

Another of the shop frontages shows the importance of the cavalry and the use of swords during the early months of the war.

Alongside some of the swords that were used in the early days

are pictures of two local cavalrymen. Trooper Harold Scamp, from Lower Gornal, was in the 7th Dragoon Guards and Trooper William Hughes from the 3rd Battalion 1st Worcester Yeomanry, who was from Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, are pictured on their steeds.

Mr Durkin said: "The swords in the display do not belong to the two gentlemen but, seeing as they were in the cavalry we thought we would put their pictures in the display."

A lot of people don't realise how many people were injured by swords in the first action of the war at Mons, so it's nice for us to add in the pictures of these two local lads."

He added: "All of the items that

we have in the exhibition have come from local people.

"They have either come from collectors in the area or from families who had grandfathers or great-uncles in the war. Often they would bring things home from the war with them and people have kept them in the family through the years."

The museum put out appeals for people to come forward with their items from the war. Mr Durkin said they had an overwhelming response. "We had more than 50 people come forward with different items."

"Unfortunately, we have had a lot of duplicates that people have lent us so we haven't been able to exhibit everything, but I'd like to say thank you to everyone

who brought something in to us. Things such as demobilisation papers and the war medals have been brought in a few times, and we have tried to use as much of them as possible."

"We have got a great collection of medals, with the main three that people got."

"They are the 1914/15 Star, the War Medal and the Victory Medal. These were quite common."

"They were nicknamed Pip, Squeak and Wilfred, after cartoon characters who were popular during the time."

Sarah Blazejewski, from Quarry Bank, visited the museum with her seven-year-old son, Harvey.

"It is really interesting," she said. "It's nice to know that they are all from local people."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Town houses scheme for hall

A £192,000 scheme to convert Holloway Hall, Dudley, into two town houses has been announced by Dudley Council.

The building is near the Holloway Chambers and Elizabeth House, Priory Street, which were converted into offices.

The council is working to increase the number of homes in the town centre and Holloway Hall has been chosen as the next stage.

Council leader David Sparks said: "Its refurbishment and return to use would create two town houses, of which there is a shortage, for rent as part of the new council homes programme."

"It is anticipated the refurbishment will be completed by March 2015."

### Cricketers stump up to help charity

TWO teams of kind hearted cricketers took part in a charity cricket match to raise funds for a charity that supports children from a disaster ridden area of Belarus.

Dudley Patels took on a team from Stourbridge Cricket Club in aid of the Kinver and Wolverhampton branch of Chernobyl Children's Life Line. The club also ran a barbecue and a raffle and raised £505.

Chairman Harilal Patel said "When I found out that club member Mark Ashbourne and his partner were hosting two boys from Chernobyl for four weeks in Belarus for children and their families I knew the club just had to help."

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Mr Haden-Best in an unknown location – sometime between 1898 and 1903



Emily Bryant seen sitting on a fence in a field



Mr Haden-Best pictured in his finery on a day out in the countryside with friends



Haden Hill House, Cradley Heath, as it looks today



Visitor services officer Alison Hyatt with one of the pictures

# Illustrious family's Victorian snapshots

**RELAXING** in the sun, having a picnic in the garden and holidaying by a river – these are the candid personal photos of one of the Black Country's most illustrious families.

The remarkable pictures were unearthed by a collector who bought a box full of original glass plates with 'Haden Hill' written on them at an auction in Leominster.

The adopted daughters of George Alfred Haden-Best, who built the stately home Haden Hill House in Cradley Heath, are the main focus of the photographs, but Mr Haden-Best himself can be seen in some of the shots.

Alice Cockin and Emily Bryant can be seen on holiday, beside lakes, on rolling hills, as well as at home. The pictures offer a fascinating insight into the life and times of the rich Victorian family.

An exhibition, called Forgotten

## MEMORY LANE

by John Pritchard

Moments, has been set up at the stately home, which now acts as the Haden Hill House Museum after the Haden Hill Historical Society successfully bid in the region of £700 for the collection on auction site eBay.

Alison Hyatt, visitor services officer, said: "The pictures are fascinating, and very important for us."

"It's really interesting to see these pictures with them being so informal, it shows that they spent a lot of their time doing the same things that we did, such as having picnics, spending time with their family and that sort of thing."

"We think the pictures were taken somewhere around the late 1800s or early 1900s."

Jane Hanney, museum services manager at Sandwell Council, said: "These are unique images as we have so few photographs of Mr Haden Best and his family but to

see them in deck chairs and by the seaside is just amazing."

Mr Haden-Best's family owned the area around the house for hundreds of years, and he inherited the estate in 1877. He built Haden Hill House in 1878 and lived in it with the two girls, who were daughters of local families, and his aunt, Mrs Barrs, who the road the house sits on is named after.

In his later life, he was a businessman, earning money from rent on properties he owned in the area, and also from stocks and shares he owned, including some in the Great Western Railway company. He was also given £55,000 compensation, equivalent to millions of pounds in today's money, by a mining company who wanted to mine under some of his land.

The girls had an upper-class lifestyle, and while Alice married, Emily stayed with Mr Haden-Best until his death in 1921. The house is open on Thursdays and Fridays from 10am to 5pm and weekends from 2-6pm. For details visit [www.sandwell.gov.uk/museums](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/museums)



Alice and John Shaw outside Haden Hall – part of the exhibition

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# Bill meets Billie as he opens baboons enclosure at zoo

TELEVISION star and conservationist Bill Oddie did a spot of monkeying around when he officially opened Dudley Zoo's £20,000 Baboons on the Bank attraction.

Crowds gathered in the rain on Monday to see him open the one-acre hillside exhibit, which now houses a family group of Gelada baboons and take a ride over the attraction on one of the zoo's chairlifts.

Bill also met his namesake, seven-week-old Gelada baby Billie, whose mother Addis was one of a group of Gelada females to arrive from France last year.

He said: "This year it was very important to me that I make a point to visit as many zoos up and down the country to see the work that they do."

When asked what he thought about his name being given to the

baby baboon Bill said: "It's a very nice thought and I will endeavour to set a great example for young Billie."

Head of media and communications at the zoo, Jill Hitchman, said: "Bill is a keen supporter of the zoo's work and took a tour of the site to see our latest developments and met a few new arrivals during our recent baby boom – including seven-week-old Billie."

"Billie is gorgeous and already very alert, he loves watching what's going on around him and is starting to communicate with group members."

Nicola Wright, team leader for lower primates, said: "When we first heard Bill was coming naming Billie was easy. Billie hadn't actually arrived yet though so there was no way to know his sex but Billie is a great unisex name anyway."



Bill Oddie after he cut the ribbon to open the Baboons on the Bank enclosure at Dudley Zoo

# Fish and chips shops in battle to win title

TWO six fish and chip shops in Stourbridge are battling it out to be crowned regional Independent Takeaway Fish and Chip Shop of the Year.

Wollaston Fish Bar and last year's winner Merchants will join four other for the title, which enable the winner to move on to the national competition at the National Fish & Chip Awards, organised by Seafish.

Antony Akathiotis, of Merchants, said: "After winning the Midlands last year we are really proud to be in the running again, it's a fantastic competition with extremely high standards." Loucas Partali, 40, who owns Wollaston Fish Bar, said: "It was a bit of a shock at first but it's nice to be recognised in the industry."

The top 10 regional finalists will be announced in October and the overall national winner will be decided in January. Paul Williams, chief executive of Seafish, said: "These awards have not only improved the industry standards by consistently rewarding and testing businesses, they have also raised positive awareness of the issues surrounding sustainable fishing practices and encouraged shops to implement sustainable sourcing."

# Deadline is set in fight to preserve Hippodrome

CAMPAIGNERS have been set a new deadline to devise fresh proposals to save Dudley Hippodrome as councillors push to take a final decision on its future.

Dudley Council bosses said the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome group and events company Events that Rok have until the end of October to submit revised proposals for the derelict venue.

It comes as consultants employed by the council said around £400,000 would have to be spent clearing asbestos from the building in order to make it safe.

The friends' group and Events that Rok, which have both submitted plans to run the venue, have been granted one-off access to the building to check on its current state and make any further assessments.

Yet officials said the visit can only be made by wearing protective masks and clothing due to the levels of the substance exposed inside.

## Stated

Regeneration boss, Councillor Judy Foster, has urged the groups to meet in a bid to reach a consensus for the future of the building.

But she said a decision on its future will be taken by the end of the year to 'avoid further deterioration' of the Hippodrome.

Councillor Foster said: "The council has always stated it will look with an open mind at any viable options for the future use of the building."

"As part of this commitment we have agreed to give

By Andrew Turton

the friends group access to parts of the building which are safe to enter as they have requested this in order to support the development of a revised business plan.

"The council's consultants have advised that the total cost for dealing with the asbestos in the building is likely to be in the region of £400,000."

"We have asked that any revised proposals from the friends group and alternative plans from the ROK group are submitted by the end of October so that a final decision can be taken by the end of the calendar year to avoid further deterioration of the building."

Chairman of the Friends, Gordon Downing, said: "We are still working independently at the moment."

"We are looking to do a more detailed financial report. We didn't initially put enough financial details in there, not through the want of trying. We are looking for some help with this. The building is deteriorating but that's because the council should be doing more to stop any leaks in the roof."

# Football match will aid glaucoma clinic

A BUSINESSMAN has organised a charity football match in aid of a hospital eye clinic. Shaz Saleem has chosen the Glaucoma Clinic to support from the proceeds of his annual Dudley Private Hire & Taxi Association Football Tournament on September 7.

It will take place at the Del Stadium, Brierley Hill, and will raise funds for the clinic at Russells Hall Hospital.

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness in the world. The glaucoma department aims to raise awareness of this condition which, if diagnosed early, can enable prompt treatment and preservation of sight.

Mr Saleem said: "I have encouraged all our drivers to have regular check-ups. Also, our drivers are also spreading the word of the seriousness of glaucoma." Find out more about the tournament at [www.facebook.co/DPHTA](http://www.facebook.co/DPHTA). To raise money for Glaucoma Support contact Karen Phillips on 01384 456111 ext 3349.

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# MP recalls 'nice guy' Attenborough's visit

TRIBUTES have poured in from the worlds of entertainment and politics following the death of Richard Attenborough.

The Oscar-winning actor and director died on Sunday at the age of 90 and he is fondly remembered by the people he met during his visits to the West Midlands over the years.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin remembers the lifelong Labour supporter helping out with the party's campaign during a by-election in the area 20 years ago. He turned out to lend his support to Ian Pearson, the Labour candidate in the 1994 Dudley West by-election.

"I remember him arriving in his Rolls-Royce in Brierley Hill High Street," said Mr Austin, who was then a Dudley councillor.

"It wasn't every day you saw a gleaming Rolls-Royce in Brierley Hill High Street, and it did cause a bit of a stir, it was quite exciting."

The actor joined Mr Pearson for tea in at Nan's Cooking cafe, Moor Centre, before hitting the campaign trail in Sedgley.

## Courtesy

He said he did not feel at all out of place in Brierley Hill, adding: "I don't spend my life at plush parties and premieres. I am a very down to earth person."

Mr Austin added: "The thing I remember about him was the courtesy he showed to people, he was very polite the way he really enjoyed everybody. He came across as a really nice guy."

In 1950, he paid tribute to the Royal Navy during an appearance at Dudley's Gaumont cinema, while sea scouts formed a guard of honour on the stage. He was appearing at the first local showing of the Morning Departure, in which he played a seaman.

The Mayor of Dudley, Alderman W H Molinieux, introduced him and signed autographs for many of the 200 waiting fans.

Later, he appeared at the Danilo cinema, Stourbridge, and rover scouts and sea rangers formed a guard of honour.

## Conservatory ends project



Rotarian Roger Scott-Dow and resident Mary Elcock at the opening

THE Rotary Club of Dudley has completed a major refurbishment of the Rotary House sheltered accommodation on Middlepark Road. The work began two years ago and the final piece to be added was a £30,000 conservatory.

Graham Dean, from the club, said: "This marks the end of two years of major refurbishment work and the conservatory really is the cherry on top."

The club built Rotary House in the early 1970s to celebrate its Golden Jubilee. It was later ex-

tended to provide more than 50 apartments for the elderly. Rotarian and councillor Roger Scott-Dow said: "We wanted to improve the welfare of people living in the accommodation and we felt a conservatory was the way to do that."

He said when the club decided to build the accommodation in 1972 it was an unusual thing for a Rotary club to do.

He said: "It was an innovative thing to do and I am proud to say that we still operate the accommodation even today."

# £50,000 grant for church's project

CHURCHLEADERS in Sedgley have secured a £50,000 grant to revamp their building's entrance and to create a cafe.

It is part of a wider scheme at St Andrew's URC Methodist Church aimed at boosting facilities for the community.

The church, which was built in 1857, serves more than 800 people each week, including many from one of the most deprived wards in the area, the Beacon Estate.

It is working to improve access to the building and encourage the community to use the community cafe and the planned drop-in and youth activities.

The grant has been awarded by the Biffa Award's Community Buildings scheme.

Work includes demolishing the entrance and installing a light and airy, fully glazed, and centrally situated entrance vestibule.

The church is used by an array of community groups.

Hot lunches are also served to senior citizens once a fortnight.

June Weaver, volunteer coordinator at St Andrew's outreach committee, said: "I know that there are many lonely people in Sedgley who will benefit from our proposed new coffee bar which will be more visible from the street."

Gillian French, Biffa Award programme manager, said: "We're pleased to be able to support the renovation project."

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# Be-spoke bicycle hub is wheel hi-tech site

A BE-SPOKE cycle park featuring the latest technology has opened at Stourbridge Junction railway station.

The sleek, glass and steel structure provides weather-proof storage for up to 30 bicycles.

It is accessible 24 hours a day and features a swipe card activated door along with internal and external CCTV cameras to help keep bikes secure.

Cyclists will be able to register to use the hub and will be issued with a card.

The project has been part funded by £30,000 secured by train operator London Midland from the Association of Train Operating Companies' (ATOC) Cycle-Rail fund.

Councillor Roger Horton, from Centro, said: "Facilities like these are much needed if we are to make it easier for people to connect their rail journeys with cycling trips.

## Picked

"We all know that the roads in the West Midlands can be very congested and it is projects like this that can give people genuine options about the way they travel."

Selly Oak Cycle Hub, opened in March by Transport Minister Baroness Kramer, was the first to be installed in the region and picked up two industry awards within weeks of opening.

Work is already underway to install further hubs at Rowley Regis and Longbridge stations.

Centro is also working with Birmingham City Council to identify other possible venues in the city as part of the council's Cycle Revolution project.

Brenda Lawrence, London Midland's head of route for Snow Hill lines said: "This is a fantastic facility and I'm really pleased we were able to se-



Centro's Conrad Jones, Councillor Roger Horton and Brenda Lawrence, cure funding towards its development.

"We are committed to working with Centro to improve cycle facilities at our stations to make leisure travel and commuting even easier."

The park was built in the Midlands by Broxap Ltd of Stoke on Trent and stands at around 11ft tall with a dis-

tinctive wave-style roof.

Cyclists wishing to use the hub can register at [www.networkwestmidlands.com](http://www.networkwestmidlands.com).

Members will be asked to provide a £20 deposit on registering which will be returned in full if they choose to leave the scheme.

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Musicians will be dressed in wigs and full 18th century costume performing seasonal classics such as Handel's Zadok the Priest and extracts from Messiah, as well as having the chance to sing traditional favourites such as Once in Royal David's City, Hark the Herald Angels Sing and O Come all ye Faithful.

The sound of everyone singing together, combined with the unique setting and ambience of the Royal Albert Hall is an experience that will be remembered for years to come.

During the break there will be an opportunity to join a short panoramic sightseeing tour of the capital, which takes in some world famous attractions, plus time for some Christmas shopping or to explore at leisure.

### INFO

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- Visit and admission to Blenheim Palace including the Living Crafts for Christmas Fair
- Free time in Oxford
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

## John Rutter's Christmas Celebration at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 11



PRICE FROM **£109**

- Return coach travel
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- Ticket to John Rutter's Christmas Celebration Concert at the Royal Albert Hall
- Visit to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland
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RIVIERA





# Drop down and rope in some cash through abseil

PEOPLE are being invited to abseil down Dudley Castle for a good cause.

The Beacon Centre for the Blind, Sedgley is looking for people to abseil from the 70ft structure on September 28 to raise funds.

Kelly Vickers, fundraising and events officer at TheBeacon, said: "We're always looking for fun and different ways to raise money for the charity and we're sure this daunting challenge will be successful."

"Abseiling is an exhilarating activity to take part in and we're offering five timeslots during the day to ensure everyone who is keen to take part has the chance."

Amongst those taking part will be three women from Wolverhampton's Connect PR agency.

Account director Caroline Garbett, junior account executive Kate

Sanders and finance manager Jackie Winfield will take a day off from managing the charity's publicity to scale the walls of the 10th Century castle.

Caroline said: "Connect started working withBeacon almost a year ago and, in that time, we have been inspired by the way the charity transforms the day-to-day lives of local people."

"Abseiling from Dudley Castle will be a real leap of faith for us, but we are excited to be helping raise awareness of Beacon and support its fundraising activity."

There are five time slots available with volunteers asked to raise at least £75 sponsorship and pay £10 to register.

A booking form can be downloaded from [www.beacon4blind.co.uk](http://www.beacon4blind.co.uk) or call 01902 880111.



Kate Sanders, Jackie Winfield and Caroline Garbett are ready to abseil

# Rude joke sparked attack, court told

A 21-year-old hit a friend in the face with a bottle after failing to see the funny side of a rude joke, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard was told.

James Whitehouse lashed out at the Chicago club in Stourbridge town centreafter his pal Lewis Gormley took a swig from his bottle of beer on March 22.

Prosecutor David Lees said: "The bottle was returned to him by Mr Gormley who made a comment in fun which the defendant did not find amusing. There was a brief scuffle between the two men that was broken up by others present."

The bottle had not broken on impact and the victim had a small laceration to the face treated at hospital, the court was told. Whitehouse, of Abberton Close, Halesowen, said Mr Gormley had upset him and 'I just hit him with a bottle.'

Mr Nigel Stelling, defending, said: "He understands the gravity of what he did that night."

Whitehouse, who had no previous convictions, admitted wounding and was given a 12 month community order under supervision.

# Village gets £80,000 for planned skate park

AN £80,000 skate park will be built in Hagley, near Stourbridge, in a scheme to boost outdoor play areas for children. Work will be completed by late spring next year.

County and parish councillors said they were delighted to secure the funding from Bromsgrove District Council. It comes just weeks after the village also won assurances from Worcestershire County Council bosses to safeguard the future of the village's library.

By Andrew Turton

The grant was awarded from funds given to the district council from housing developers to pay the costs of the works on the Hagley parish owned playing fields.

Parish council chairman and district councillor Steve Colella described the decision as 'fantastic news'.

"We've already talked to the Hagley policing team, local youths and residents about how we can best consult with the whole community on what type of equipment they would like," he said.

"A formal consultation will start shortly whereby we'll be arranging a youth workshop to identify types of equipment as well as seeking the views of the wider community."

County councillor Rachel Jenkins added: "It's great to be able to be in a position to provide something for the teenagers of Hagley at long last."

"If all goes to plan we aim to have something in place by late spring next year."

"I'd like to thank the parish council and the district council in supporting myself and Councillor Colella in getting to this position."

The funding comes at a time when a residents action group continues to campaign for the district council to rethink its police over the New Homes Bonus fund.

The New Homes Bonus is a grant paid by central government to councils for increasing the number of homes and their use.

But the council has opted to put cash from the New Homes Bonus into a central district pot, a move which campaigners claim leaves it unclear where it would be spent. A meeting is due to take place next month over the issue after the group collected a 1,500-strong petition.

Councillor Colella added: "At the moment Bromsgrove has decided to use the bonus as a one off income to support the district council's general budgets."

"We believe that this is wrong and not what the bonus was intended for. It should be used for the long term investment in capital projects in our communities."

# Walkers wanted to help raise cash

A charity which seeks to prevent suicide among the young is appealing for people in the West Midlands to organise sponsored walks this autumn.

Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide is asking for volunteers to help organise events in their own area as part of its national Hopewalk programme held on World Mental Health Awareness Day on October 10.

The charity held the event for the first time last year, with hundreds of volunteers donning trainers and walking boots to raise awareness that there is help for young people struggling with life.

This year the charity is hoping to get people from the West Midlands on board as it aims to double the number of walks taking place.

Papyrus fundraising manager Aanika Dhillonurged people to take part.

To help can visit [www.papyrus-uk.org/fundraising](http://www.papyrus-uk.org/fundraising)

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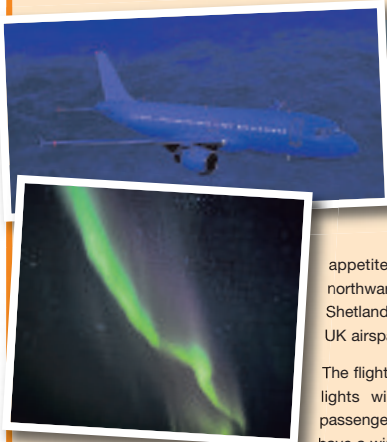
# star extra TRAVEL

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## In search of the Northern Lights

Evening excursion departing November 19, January 21 and February 18

Pick of the week



★ **PRICE FROM £199.<sup>95</sup>**

Enjoy a unique flight through a star-studded panorama to search for nature's very own spectacular light show.

The evening starts with an interesting illustrated 60-minute presentation about the night sky and the Northern Lights by a guest astronomer

Following the presentation and with sky-scanning appetites whetted, join the aircraft for the flight which heads northwards, as directly as possible, usually over Aberdeen and the Shetlands Isles, to a point in the North Atlantic at the limit of UK airspace.

The flight will last for between 3 and 3¼ hours, during which the cabin lights will be dimmed to see the Northern Lights display, and passengers will be asked to rotate seats regularly so that everyone will have a window seat at various times throughout the flight.

The lights may appear as simply a vague glow in the sky or as a curtaining effect consisting of parallel rays, often enhanced by folds called striations. The colours seen are mainly green with rarer occurrences of red and blue.

*Please note: the Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and there is no guarantee they will occur during the flight, though they have been visible on many previous outings.*

### INFO

- Pre-flight illustrated presentation by expert astronomers
- Flight in search of the Northern lights of around 3–3¼ hours
- Services of the astronomers on board
- Light refreshments on board
- Services of a tour manager

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782, ATOL 6081)

## Carols with the Stars at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 9

★ **PRICE FROM £129**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Circle ticket for the Carols with the Stars concert
- Short panoramic London sightseeing tour
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

## York St Nicholas Christmas Fayre

Two days departing November 29

★ **PRICE FROM £99**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to York Christmas Fayre
- Visit to Harrogate Christmas market
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Liverpool and Manchester Shopper

Two days departing November 29

★ **PRICE FROM £99.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to the Manchester Christmas markets
- Free time in Liverpool
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

## Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Two days departing November 14

★ **PRICE FROM £159.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Admission and coach transfer to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- Free time in Kings Lynn and Cambridge
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

## Jersey

Four to eight days various departure dates

★ **PRICE FROM £265\***

- Return flights
- Bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Mayfair or Metropole hotels
- Return coach transfers in Jersey
- Half-board option offered for a supplement
- Special offers apply for certain dates (see brochure for details)
- Festive breaks also offered
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

\*From price is based on four-day breaks  
Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752)

## Self-drive London Theatre breaks

Two days various departure dates

★ **PRICE FROM £89.<sup>95</sup>**

- Ticket for the Friday or Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice (top price ticket on Friday, standard price ticket on Saturday – upgrades offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

*Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show*  
Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

## Bath and Colours of the Cotswolds

Three days departing October 31

★ **PRICE FROM £149.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Visits to Bath and Lacock
- Entrance and guided walk at Westonbirt
- Tour of the Cotswolds
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

## London Eye and Thames River Cruise

Two days departing Oct 25, Nov 22, Dec 13

★ **PRICE FROM £149.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation at a four-star outer London hotel
- Flight on the London Eye
- Cruise on the River Thames
- Free time in London
- Services of a coach driver/ tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

## Pompeii, Capri and the Bay of Naples

Eight days  
Various departure dates 2014 and 2015

★ **PRICE FROM £759**

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Guided tours of Pompeii and Sorrento
- Visits to Naples and Ravello
- Cruise to Capri
- Visit to the volcano of Vesuvius
- Tour of the Amalfi coast
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally  
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## Mickey's Fireworks and Bonfire

at Disneyland® Paris  
Three days departing November 4

★ **PRICE FROM £215\***

- Return coach travel and Channel crossings
- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation at a Disney® Hotel (choice offered)
- One day hopper ticket to Disneyland® Park and Walt Disney Studios® Park including Mickey's Magical Fireworks and Bonfire event
- Services of a tour representative

\*Based on two adults sharing, children aged 3-11 from £119 (conditions apply)  
**Please note this trip cannot be booked online**  
Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

## Krakow

Four days  
Various departure dates 2014 and 2015

★ **PRICE FROM £419**

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided sightseeing tour of Krakow
- Visit to the castle district
- Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau
- Optional excursion to the Salt Mines
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744)





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## Former Genesis star for Symphony

PROG legend Steve Hackett is returning to the West Midlands with his Genesis Extended Tour.

He will play Birmingham's Symphony Hall on November 4, giving fans one last chance to catch a whole set entirely from the Genesis catalogue.

Hackett has recently taken part in the forthcoming BBC documentary Genesis: Together And Apart, which saw the original line-up of Genesis reunite for the first time since 1975. The show is due for transmission and release later this year.

He will kick off his Genesis Extended UK Tour on October 21. It will feature a selection of classics, some of which he could not include on the Genesis Revisited tour.

## Theatres have a packed diary

AN eclectic autumn programme of entertainment is in store at Lichfield's Garrick Theatre and Stafford's Gatehouse Theatre.

The Gatehouse will welcome on Monday The Stray Birds, a bluegrass trio.

It will be followed on September 16 by a production of A Streetcar Named Desire, which will be beamed live from the National Theatre. Classical violinist Nicola Benedetti plays live on September 19.

The Garrick will showcase four local bands on September 5. Ceri Dupree will feature in Fit For a Queen on September 6 and Joe Brown will headline a rock'n'roll evening on September 7.

# Icons of rock and pop will line up for LG Arena and NIA

## Mission to wow audience

A HEADLINE show from goth rocker Wayne Hussey will be among the highlights of an autumn series of gigs at Bilston's Robin 2.

The star is playing a solo show on September 22.

He said: "I daresay I will have some new songs to play along with solo versions of some well known and lesser known Mission songs and the occasional cover version. Sing-a-longs guaranteed."

International metal package Cryptosy, Disgorge and Jungle Rot line up on Monday.

Taz Taylor Band will headline on September 2 UK blues rock star, Danny Bryant will play on September 3 before a headline show from Martin Barre, who is best known as the guitarist from Jethro Tull.

Ex-White Lion and Freak Of Nature star Mike Tramp will line-up for a solo acoustic show on September 11 while Stackridge will follow on September 11.



Wayne Hussey of The Mission will be performing in Bilston on September 22

SOME of the biggest names in rock will visit the Midlands to play iconic tunes at the region's largest venues.

Madness, Kasabian, Ed Sheeran and Paolo Nutini are among the A-listers with gigs at Birmingham's LG Arena before Christmas. The Saturdays, Kylie, Lady Gaga, James Blunt, The Who and Chris Rea will line up at the NIA.

The LG Arena's autumn programme will start on September 26 with a headline gig from 70s troubadour James Taylor. Il Divo will follow on October 18 and the record-breaking classical crossover group will bring A Musical Affair: The Greatest Songs Of Broadway Live. Grammy-nominated, multi-platinum selling, singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran will star on October 19 and 20, with support from Saint Raymond.

A galaxy of blues bands will star in The Big Reunion Boy Band Tour on October 21 and among the acts confirmed are Five, Blue, 911, Gareth Gates, Dane Bowser, Adam Rickitt, Kavana and Kenzie.

Rockers Black Stone Cherry will play on October 30, hot on the heels of their sold-out-in-a-day Southern Hospitality dates in February.

Paolo Nutini will feature on November 5 before a headline concert from Bryan Adams on November 19 and a performance from



Ed Sheeran

Kasabian on November 22. Ambient rock pioneer Peter Dinklage will play on November 28. The LG will welcome rock legend Slash on December 1, opera singer Alfie Boe on December 11 and Madness on December 13.

The NIA will welcome The Saturdays on September 15. The Vamps will line up on October 5 before a headline performance from Kylie on October 7. Caro Emerald will star on October 11.

Other highlights include Lady Gaga on October 15, James on November 22, and The Who on December 7.

## Feast of folk on show at festival

A FEAST of folk is in store this weekend when The Waterboys, Johnny Marr, Richard Thompson and Sonic Youth mainman Thurston Moore line up at Moseley Folk Festival, Birmingham.

Friday will feature headliner Marr with supporting slots from Jimi Goodwin, Moore, Samantha Crain, Martha Tilston and The Scientists and Lisa O'Neill.

Headliner on Saturday will be Thompson with support from The Felice Brothers, Stealing Sheep with Brass Band, Woods, Boat To Row, Arc Iris and The Rails. Sunday's headliner will be The Waterboys with support from Lau, Marissa Nadler, The Old Dance School, Lisa Knapp, Miles Hunt & Erica Nockalls and Tom Hickox.

## Group to ride in for date at Civic

NUMBER one indie combo Bombay Bicycle Club will headline Wolverhampton's Civic Hall when they hit the road for their biggest UK tour to date.

The band, flush from the success of this year's number one album So Long, See You Tomorrow, will play the venue on December 10.

So Long, See You Tomorrow, captured the results of singer Jack Steadman's picaresque adventures in of Turkey and India in 2013.

Its electronic-inflected and Bollywood-referencing sound made good on the Eastern promise, as it went straight to Number 1 in the album charts in February, reaching silver status in record time.

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CHOICE



**Simon Cowell**  
**The X Factor (ITV, 8.00pm)**  
New series. The talent extravaganza returns for its 11th series with some important changes – Simon Cowell is back on the panel for the first time since 2010, former guest judge Mel B takes a permanent role on the show and Cheryl Cole has also signed up, but she's now Cheryl Fernandez-Versini following her whirlwind wedding in July. Show stalwart Louis Walsh completes the line-up as the experts search for the nation's next singing sensation. As last year, there's an X Factor double bill every week from the beginning, kicking off with the popular closed-room auditions. The minimum age for acts has now also been lowered to 14, creating more opportunities for all the budding Justin Bieberes out there. Dermot O'Leary hosts.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bits. 11.30 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.00 Youth Olympic Games Highlights. Highlights from Nanjing, China. 4.00 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News: Regional News. 5.30 Pointless Celebrities.  
**6.15 Tumble.** Alex Jones presents as the remaining celebrities and their professional partners perform rhythmic gymnastic and trampoline routines. They're hoping to impress the judging panel of Louis Smith, Nadia Comaneci, Craig Heap and Sebastian Stella and win a place in the semi-final.  
**7.30 Doctor Who.** The Time Lord crosses swords with his arch-enemies again when he tries to help a rebel space ship surrounded by a Dalek fleet. Sci-fi adventure, starring Peter Capaldi.  
**8.15 The National Lottery: Break the Safe.** Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs of contestants answer two-part questions for the chance to play for the money in the safe. A mum and daughter, two firefighters and a couple compete for the chance to prove they have the split-second timing required to win the jackpot. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws, presented by Gabby Roslin, who also looks at the finalists in the Heritage category of next month's National Lottery Awards. Last in the series.  
**9.10 Casualty.** Jeff finds out Samantha has been keeping a secret from him, forcing him to rethink his feelings. Max helps a young couple stand up to their families and Charlie returns to work.  
**10.00 BBC News:** Weather.  
**10.20 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Everton v Chelsea at Goodison Park and Burnley v Manchester United at Turf Moor, National Lottery Update.  
**11.45 The Football League Show.** Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Fulham v Cardiff City.  
**1.05 Weather** for the Week Ahead. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.00 Film:** Odette. (1950) **7.50 Film:** Stage Struck. (1951) **9.25 Dingo Dan.** (R) **6.35 Dingo Dan.** (R) **6.50 Dingo Dan.** (R) **7.00 Sooty.** (R) **7.10 Nerd & Monsters.** (R) **7.25 Nerd & Monsters.** (R) **7.40 Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R) **7.55 Chowder.** (R) **8.10 Chowder.** (R) **8.25 ITV News.** **8.30 Film:** The Man in the White Suit. (1951) Satirical Ealing comedy, starring Alec Guinness. **4.20 Coast.** 5.00 Natural World: Attenborough's Fabulous Frogs. (R)  
**6.00 Flog It!** Experts Michael Baggot and Will Axon pick their way through collectibles brought into the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Ashbourne, Derbyshire, including a ghoulish object that could put bidders off at auction. Presenter Paul Martin visits Chatsworth House where he examines the life of Georgiana, the notorious fifth Duchess of Devonshire.  
**7.00 Proms Extra 2014.** Katie Derham presents the weekly magazine show, with the spotlight on performances of Elgar's Cello Concerto, Stravinsky's Petrushka and Ravel's Bolero.  
**7.45 Dad's Army.** Jones buys black-market pigeons from wheeler-dealer Walker – but is horrified to discover the birds were taken from Trafalgar Square. (R)  
**8.15 Ancient Egypt: Life and Death in the Valley of the Kings.** Part two of two. Joann Fletcher examines the Ancient Egyptian attitude to death, looking at why they spent a fortune preparing for it and what they hoped to find in the afterlife. (R)  
**9.15 Andrew Marr's Great Scots: The Writers Who Shaped a Nation.** The life of poet Hugh MacDiarmid, a staunch nationalist who reinvented Scots as a language for serious writing and was for many years under surveillance by MI5.  
**10.15 QI XL.** Rob Brydon, Phill Jupitus, Cal Wilson and Alan Davies try to come up with interesting answers to Stephen Fry's questions about journeys, in an extended version of the quiz. (R)  
**11.00 TOTP2.** A selection of archive performances, including Wham!, Supertramp, the Jacksons, ELO, Hot Chocolate, the Lightning Seeds with Baddiel & Skinner, and Emeli Sande. (R)  
**12.00 Film:** Marnie. (1964) **2.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00 CITY:** Pat & Stan. **6.10** Pat & Stan. **6.15** Pat & Stan. **6.20** Dingo Dan. **6.25** Dingo Dan. **6.30** Dingo Dan. **6.35** Dingo Dan. **6.40** Dingo Dan. **6.45** Dingo Dan. **6.50** Dingo Dan. **7.00 Sooty.** (R) **7.10 Nerd & Monsters.** (R) **7.25 Nerd & Monsters.** (R) **7.40 Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R) **7.55 Chowder.** (R) **8.10 Chowder.** (R) **8.25 ITV News.** **8.30 Film:** The Man in the White Suit. (1951) Satirical Ealing comedy, starring Alec Guinness. **4.20 Coast.** 5.00 Natural World: Attenborough's Fabulous Frogs. (R)  
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**12.00 Film:** Marnie. (1964) **2.05** This Is BBC Two.

CHANNEL 4

**6.05 The Hoobs.** (R) **6.30 Trans World Sport.** 7.25 The Grid. 7.55 The Morning Line. **8.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.50 Frasier.** (R) **10.20 Frasier.** (R) **10.50 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **11.15 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **11.40 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **12.05 The Simpsons.** (R) **1.10** Gadget Man. (R) **1.40 Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Sandown Park, Chester and Beverley. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me. (R)  
**6.15 Come Dine with Me.** Care worker Jane Arnold hosts the final dinner party in Salisbury, Wiltshire, and her bedroom antics raise a few eyebrows before the winner is announced. (R)  
**6.40 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.10 Sarah Beeny's Double Your House for Half the Money.** A Sheffield couple encounter problems with an extension before the foundations are even laid, and a bungalow in Radlett, Hertfordshire, is adapted for a man with multiple sclerosis. (R)  
**8.05 Grand Designs.** Kevin McClood meets dairy farmer Andrew Ainslie and his artist wife Meryl in Marlborough, Wiltshire. Their current house is separate from their land, so they want to build a new home close to their 200-head herd of cattle. The project involves constructing an ultra-modern barn-like building from engineered timber, with a barrel-shaped zinc roof, which will combine functionality with high-finish craftsmanship. (R)  
**9.10 Film: Lockout.** (2012) Premiere. A government agent is framed for murder, and sentenced to a prison on board a space station. Before he can be sent there, a riot takes place in the penitentiary and the convicted seize control, holding the president's daughter hostage. The condemned man is offered a pardon if he can rescue her. Sci-fi thriller, starring Guy Pearce.  
**11.00 Film: The Accused.** (1988) A waitress vows to bring to justice the bystanders who did nothing to intervene when she was raped in a bar. Drama, starring an Oscar-winning Jodie Foster.  
**1.05** Sean Lock: Lockpiedia Live. (R) **2.00** The Last Leg. (R) **2.45** Homeland. (R) **3.40** Hollyoaks. **5.45** Gordon Ramsay's Home Cooking. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** **10.00 Access.** **10.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.10 Film:** The Burning Hills. (1956) Western, starring Tab Hunter. **2.00 Film:** Guns of the Magnificent Seven. (1969) **4.05 Film:** Rio Bravo. (1959) Western, with John Wayne and Dean Martin.  
**7.00 Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the third match of the five-game one-day series, which took place at Trent Bridge in Nottingham. The nations last met here in this form of the game a decade ago, in a match that saw fast-bowler Steve Harrison claim a hat-trick as India faltered to 170 all out, while Vikram Solanki scored 52 to help the hosts to a seven-wicket victory.  
**7.55 5 News Weekend.**  
**8.00 Burned Alive: Anatomy of a Murder.** Documentary charting in detail the events leading up to a murder, beginning with the killing of Stacey Mackie in January 2012. Stacey made a fatal error of judgement when she ended her friendship with Terrence Armer, who became abusive and threatening, culminating in his gaining entry to her flat, dousing her in white spirit and setting her alight. The programme features interviews with Stacey's mother and sister and a detective inspector from Cumbria police force, as well as expert analysis from a criminal psychologist. (R)  
**9.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** Highlights of another day of diary room revelations, bedroom banter, arguments and alliances, including a chance to see the events leading up to Friday's eviction and what happened afterwards. (R)  
**10.00 Paddy McGuinness – Saturday Night Live.** The comedian and Take Me Out presenter performs at Manchester Arena during his 2011 UK tour, holding forth on topics including strip clubs, stag dos and hen nights.  
**11.10 Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Psych.** Ryan Clark and Iain Lee are joined by a panel of psychologists, body-language experts and celebrity fans to analyse the behaviour of the housemates. With Luisa Zissman.  
**12.10 SuperCasino.** **3.10** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **8.00** World's Craziest Fools **8.30** Top Gear India Special **10.00** Russell Howard's Good News **11.00** Family Guy **1.35** Sexy Beasts **2.05** Comedy Fest Live 2014 **3.00** Russell Howard's Good News **4.00** Close  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Human Planet **8.00** Tales from the National Parks **9.00** Crimes of Passion **10.25** Timewatch: Britain's Lost Colosseum **11.15** Rome's Lost Empire **12.45** Boxing at the Movies: Kings of the Ring **1.45** Human Planet **2.45** Tales from the National Parks **3.45** Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.10** Take Me Out **12.20** You've Been Framed! Funniest 100 **1.25** Totally You've Been Framed! **2.25** The X Factor: The Boss is Back **3.25** The X Factor: Cheryl Looks Back **4.30** The X Factor: Louis Looks Back **5.30** Wonderful World of The X Factor **6.30** The X Factor: Your Top Ten **7.35** Film: Jurassic Park III (2001) **9.25** The X Factor **10.30** Film: Happy Gilmore (1996) **12.20** The X Factor **1.50** The X Factor **2.40** Rita Ora: The Hot Desk **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**1.00** Hidden Treasure **3.00** A Touch of Frost **7.00** Lewis **9.00** Bombsay Murders **11.00** Bomb Girls **12.00** A Touch of Frost **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.50** Classic TT **12.10** Storage Wars **1.50** World Rally Championship Highlights **2.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights **3.50** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **5.20** Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** Film: On Her Majesty's Secret Service (1969) **10.55** Film: The Wild Bunch (1969) **1.50** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **4.30** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.30** How I Met Your Mother **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **2.30** Melissa & Joey **3.30** Made in Chelsea **4.35** The Big Bang Theory **5.35** How I Met Your Mother **6.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **7.00** The 100 **8.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Scott Pilgrim vs The World (2010) **11.15** The Big Bang Theory **12.15** Virtually Famous **1.05** Almost Royal **1.35** How I Met Your Mother **2.50** Suburgatory **3.35** Glee **4.20** Desperate Housewives  
**Film4**  
**1.00** Courage of Lassie (1946) **1.00** The Last Mimzy (2007) **2.50** Tooth Fairy (2010) **5.00** The Princess Diaries (2001) **7.15** Airplane! (1980) **9.00** Ghost (1990) **11.25** Intruders (2011) **1.25** Bombay Beach (2011) **3.05** Close

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CHOICE



**John Thomson and Simon Day**  
**The Two Amigos: A Gaucho Adventure (BBC2, 9.00pm)**  
 In the first edition of this new two part series, which promises to be filled with fun and games, Fast Show stars John Thomson and Simon Day head off to Argentina to learn the ways of the country's rugged cowboys and national icons ahead of them participating in a cattle drive in the foothills of the Andes. After a hair-raising, pot-hole dodging drive, they arrive at La Pelada Estancia near the small town of Esquina, their home for a week of intense training. Head honcho Dario Gallardo soon has the pair bedecked in traditional ponchos and riding on two of the ranch's sturdiest horses, preparing them for their three-day ride in the wilds of Patagonia.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast, 7.35 Match of the Day.** (R) **9.00 BBC News, 9.00 Sunday Morning Live, 11.00 Wanted Down Under.** (R) **11.45 Helicopter Heroes Down Under.** (R) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra.** With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00 BBC News: Weather.** **1.15 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **2.00 Best of Homes Under the Hammer.** (R) **2.30 24 Hours on Earth.** (R) **3.30 Escape to the Country.** **4.30 The Great British Bake Off.** (R) **5.30 Junior Songs of Praise.**  
**6.05 Deadly on a Mission: Pole to Pole.** Steve Backshall and his team go in search of the jaguar, an entire life, before turning their attentions to ocean predator the killer whale.  
**6.35 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.**  
**7.00 Nature's Miracle Orphans.** Second of two programmes following preparations to return orphaned baby animals to the wild. In Australia, Ellie Harrison meets Sue, who has been caring for bare-nosed wombat Stacey since her mother was killed four months previously. To get the animal used to the outside world, they take her into their garden for the first time. However, interaction with other wombats is a vital part of rehabilitation, so they need to find a suitable companion before she can be released. Wildlife cameraman Max Hug Williams is in Costa Rica, finding out how three-toed sloth Newbie is responding to treatment and meeting a 10-month-old anteater as he learns to forage the critters he needs to keep him going.  
**8.00 Countryfile.** Ellie Harrison meets one of the last survivors of the Women's Land Army and reveals why the Peak District Mountain Rescue was formed. Plus, Jules Hudson explores Staffordshire.  
**9.00 The Village.** Edmund and Harriet prepare for their wedding, while Gilbert and Agnes get married. Grace continues to defy John over the land debate and joins the protest walk at the Big House.  
**10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.**  
**10.25 Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action.  
**11.35 Boomers.** (R)  
**12.05 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **12.10 BBC News.**

BBC2

**6.00 Countryfile.** (R) **7.00 Monty Don's Italian Gardens.** (R) **8.00 Gardeners' World.** (R) **8.35 Dino Dan.** (R) **6.50 The Beechgrove Garden.**  
**9.00 The Football League Show.** (R) **10.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.**  
**11.50 Live Rowing. 1.45 Triathlon. 4.00 Equestrian.**  
**6.00 Flog It!** Experts Charlie Ross and Tracy Martin visit Oxford University's Sheldonian Theatre to examine a selection of antiques, including a Chinese snuff bottle and a miniature grandfather clock. Meanwhile, presenter Paul Martin heads to the faculty of music to examine the instruments in the Bate Collection.  
**7.00 Equator.** Author and broadcaster Simon Reeve travels around the equator, beginning by visiting countries in Africa, including Gabon – a producer of oil that once had the world's highest per capita consumption of champagne. However, the lavish life comes to a halt when he and his team are abandoned by their drivers in the rainforest. (R)  
**8.00 Dragons' Den.** A former male stripper breaks down under pressure, and two British expats fly in from Australia to seek investment for their tanning range – and have a jungle that takes the Dragons by surprise. Will anybody be able to impress Kelly Hoppen, Piers Linney, Peter Jones, Deborah Meaden and Duncan Bannatyne? (R)  
**9.00 The Two Amigos: A Gaucho Adventure.** Part one of two. Fast Show stars John Thomson and Simon Day head off to Argentina to learn how to be cowboys, before going on a cattle drive in the foothills of the Andes.  
**10.00 Him & Her: The Wedding.** New series. Chief bridesmaid Becky has to deal with an excited Laura on the morning of her nuptials and best man Steve cannot find Paul. Comedy, with Russell Tovey and Kerry Howard.  
**10.30 Film: Starter for 10.** (2006) A student in the 1980s sets out to appear on University Challenge – and woe a fellow contestant in the process. Comedy drama, starring James McAvoy, Alice Eve and Catherine Tate.  
**12.00 Film: The Science of Sleep.** (2006) **1.40 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R) **2.40 HOLBY City.** (R) **3.40 This is BBC Two.**

ITV

**6.00 CITV: Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.10 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.15 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.25 Dino Dan.** (R) **6.50 Animals.** (R) **6.55 Animals.** (R) **7.00 Sooty.** (R) **7.10 Nerds & Monsters.** (R) **7.25 Nerds & Monsters.** (R) **7.40 Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R) **7.55 Chowder.** (R) **8.10 Chowder.** (R) **8.25 ITV News.** **8.30 Weekend 9.25 May the Best House Win.** (R) **10.25 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **11.20 ITV News: Weather.** **11.30 River Monsters.** (R) **12.30 Long Lost Family.** (R) **1.30 Film: The Borrowers.** (1997) Children's fantasy, starring John Goodman. **3.10 The X Factor.** (R) **4.35 All Star Family Fortunes.** (R) **5.30 Tipping Point.** (R)  
**6.30 Regional Programme: Weather.**  
**6.45 ITV News: Weather.**  
**7.00 Come On Down! The Game Show Story.** Bradley Walsh examines the evolution of the game show, from the basic sets of early programmes to the hi-tech look of The Cube and elaborate obstacle courses of Total Wipeout. He meets the man known to millions more than 40 years ago as Bernie the Bolt and has a go himself at lining up the famous crossbow from The Golden Shot. There's also a look at the changing role of women over the years, from the days of hostesses like Anne Aston to the impact of presenters such as Anneka Rice and Carol Vorderman in the 1980s.  
**8.00 The X Factor.** The closed-room auditions continue as more solo singers and groups attempt to prove they are worthy of a potentially life-changing record contract. Dermot O'Leary hosts.  
**9.00 The Great War: The People's Story.** A Glasgow shipbuilder, an aristocratic man and an 18-year-old Londoner – all previously exempted from service – are called up to fight as the death toll rises. Last in the series.  
**10.00 ITV News: Weather.**  
**11.50 Prom Crazy: Frocks and Ferraris.** Documentary following four teenagers preparing for their end-of-year school prom, as they set their sights on designer outfits, makeovers and luxurious transport. (R)  
**11.15 The Cube.** Police officer Kevin continues the challenge, with £50,000 already in the bag. (R)  
**12.10 The Store. 2.25 Motorsport UK.** **3.15 British Superbike Championship Highlights.** **4.05 ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.10 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) **6.35 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) **7.00 Ironman 2014. 7.30 Ironman 2014.** **8.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch.** **12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces.** (R) **1.35 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.00 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **3.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.30 Film: The Three Musketeers.** (1993) Swashbuckling comedy adventure, with Kiefer Sutherland. **5.35 Deal or No Deal.**  
**6.30 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.00 How Britain Worked.** Engineering enthusiast Guy Martin and the team repair the water turbine needed to power an old saw mill in Wensleydale, North Yorkshire. He then ropes in a carpenter friend to help fell a tree and transport it to the building on a steam traction engine, before using the cut wood to make a replica of the first pedal-powered bicycle. Along the way, Guy learns about the lives of factory workers during the Industrial Revolution and how child apprentices were often little more than slave labour. (R)  
**8.00 Secrets of the Body Snatchers: A Time Team Special.** Tony Robinson uncovers the truth behind some of the 19th century events of the 19th century, when criminals would steal corpses from graves for medical research purposes.  
**9.00 Film: Tower Hiss.** (2011) Premiere. The manager of an apartment complex asks a Wall Street financier to manage pension funds for him and his friends, but the man pockets all the money instead. When he realises the fraudster is going to get away with the crime and the money will never be found, he enlists the help of a professional thief to steal it back. Crime comedy, with Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy, Alan Alda, Tea Leoni and Casey Affleck.  
**11.00 Film: Another 48 Hrs.** (1990) Convict Reggie Hammond and cop Jack Gates once again join forces, this time taking on a mysterious drug kingpin. Comedy thriller sequel, starring Eddie Murphy and Nick Nolte.  
**12.50 Film: Paradise: Love.** (2012) **2.50 First Time Farmers.** (R) **3.45 The Million Pound Drop.** (R) **4.40 Gordon Ramsay's Home Cooking.** (R) **5.05 Deal or No Deal.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig.** **6.05 Roary the Racing Car.** (R) **6.10 Angelina Ballerina.** (R) **6.30 Bubble Guppies.** (R) **6.40 The Mr Men Show.** (R) **6.50 Chloe's Closet.** (R) **7.05 Roobarb and Custard Too.** (R) **7.10 Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **7.25 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.40 City of Friends.** (R) **7.50 Little Princess.** (R) **8.00 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky.** (R) **8.20 Wanda and the Alien.** **8.35 Rupert Bear.** (R) **8.50 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **9.05 Jelly Jamm.** (R) **9.20 LazyTown.** (R) **9.50 Access. 9.55 Police Interceptors.** (R) **10.50 Police Interceptors.** (R) **11.50 Police Interceptors.** (R) **12.45 Police Interceptors.** (R) **1.50 Film: Vertical Limit.** (2000) Action adventure, starring Chris O'Donnell. **4.05 Film: Monster House.** (2006) Animated comedy horror, with the voice of Mitchell Musso. **5.45 Film: Sweet Home Alabama.** (2002) Romantic comedy, starring Reese Witherspoon and Josh Lucas.  
**8.00 5 News Weekend.**  
**8.05 World's Deadliest Storms.** Documentary featuring footage of some of the world's most extreme weather captured by those who survived it. In Indianapolis, freak winds cause a 32-ton stage to collapse on top of spectators. Hurricane Sandy strikes a small coastal town in New York and a tornado tears a peaceful Illinois neighbourhood to pieces. (R)  
**9.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room.  
**10.00 Film: Death Sentence.** (2007) Premiere. An executive turns into a vigilante, using increasingly brutal methods to avenge his son's murder by a street gang. Thriller, starring Kevin Bacon and Kelly Preston.  
**12.05 Prisoners** Out of Control. A look inside the walls of the most notorious prisons. **12.55 SuperCasino.** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10 Royal Pets: One's Best Friend.** Members of the British monarchy and their animals. **4.00 House Doctor.** A property in Hammersmith, West London. (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R) **5.15 Angels of Jarm.** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 Great Movie Mistakes – Not in 3D 7.15 Doctor Who 8.05 Film: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008) 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 Cuckoo 11.15 Siblings 11.45 American Dad! 12.30 Sexy Beasts 1.00 Cuckoo 1.30 Siblings 2.00 Russell Howard's Good News 3.00 Josh 3.15 Great Movie Mistakes – Not in 3D 3.30 Sexy Beasts 4.00 Close**  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00 The Sunday Prom: Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra 9.10 Imagine: Tom Jones – What Good Am I? 10.10 Film: Miss Bala (2011) 12.00 Blondie's New York and the Making of Parallel Lines 12.50 New York Rock at the BBC 1.50 Blondie at Glastonbury 2.45 Imagine: Tom Jones – What Good Am I? 3.45 Close**  
**ITV2**  
**12.05 America's Got Talent 2.45 Totally You've Been Framed! 3.45 Film: The Little Vampire (2000) 5.40 The X Factor 7.05 Film: Year One (2009) 9.00 The Xtra Factor 10.00 Utterly Outrageous Celebrity Weddings 11.00 The X Factor 12.00 The Xtra Factor 1.00 The Big Reunion 2014 1.50 You've Been Framed: A-Z 2.40 Teleshopping 5.40 ITV2 Nightscreen**  
**ITV3**  
**11.35 Film: George and Mildred: The Movie (1980) 1.30 Film: Evil Under the Sun (1982) 3.55 Film: Columbo: Last Salute to the Commodore (1976) 5.55 Inspector Morse 8.00 Lewis 10.00 Wycliffe 11.05 Film: The Breakfast Club (1985) 1.10 William and Mary 2.00 Judge Judy 3.05 Movies Now 3.15 ITV3 Nightscreen 3.40 Emmerdale**  
**ITV4**  
**11.20 Film: Paths of Glory (1957) 1.10 Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1930) 4.15 Film: Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) 6.00 The Motorbike Show 7.00 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 8.00 River Monsters 9.00 Film: Waterworld (1995) 11.45 Hell on Wheels 12.40 Classic TT 2014 1.40 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 2.35 Cheers 3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store 4.30 Teleshopping**  
**E4**  
**12.30 Made in Chelsea NYC 1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.30 Suburgatory 3.00 The Mindy Project 3.30 New Girl 4.00 The Big Bang Theory 5.00 The 100 5.55 Rude(ish) Tube 6.55 Film: Three Men and a Cradle (1987) 9.00 Made in Chelsea NYC 10.00 Almost Royal 10.35 The Big Bang Theory 11.35 Virtually Famous 12.25 Rules of Engagement 1.05 Suburgatory 2.15 Happy Endings 3.00 The Cleveland Show 3.20 Hollywoods**  
**Film4**  
**11.00 Carry On Doctor (1967) 1.00 Chalet Girl (2011) 2.50 Soy Kids 4: All the Time in the World (2011) 4.40 The King and I (1956) 7.15 The Golden Child (1986) 9.00 Brassed Off (1996) 11.10 Terminator Salvation (2009) 1.25 Absentia (2011) 3.20 Close**

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**MONDAY**  
**Paradise: Faith, Channel 4, 1am**  
An Austrian woman becomes obsessively devoted to Catholicism, going door to door asking people to pray with her and developing sexual fixations with the crucifixion. Drama, the second film in Ulrich Seidl's Paradise trilogy, starring Maria Hofstätter and Nabil Saleh. In German and Arabic. (2012)

**TUESDAY**  
**Do No Harm, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A woman is devastated when her partner dies in a plane crash, and tries to kill herself. She is helped in her recovery by a psychiatrist, but the doctor develops an unhealthy fixation with the patient and kidnaps her, hoping she will replace her own dead daughter. Thriller, starring Deanna Russo and Lauren Holly. (2012)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**The Stepford Wives, BBC1, 11.50pm**  
A ruthless TV boss suffers a nervous breakdown and is persuaded to relocate to an idyllic town. However, she begins to suspect something is very wrong with the local women and sets out to discover the dark secret behind the seemingly perfect community. Frank Oz's comedy remake of the 1975 satire, with Nicole Kidman, Matthew Broderick and Bette Midler. (2004)



The Stepford Wives, Wednesday, BBC2, 11.50pm

**THURSDAY**  
**Texas Rangers, BBC1, 11.35pm**  
A posse of courageous gunslingers and hotheads is hired by the state governor to prevent Texas from falling into lawless ruin in the aftermath of the American Civil War. Western, starring James Van Der Beek. (2001)

**FRIDAY**  
**The Boat That Rocked, ITV, 10.40pm**  
A host of eclectic DJs entertain 1960s Britain through a pirate radio station, broadcasting from a vessel in the North Sea. Richard Curtis's comedy, starring Bill Nighy, Rhys Ifans and Nick Frost. (2009)

**American Beauty, BBC2, 11.05pm**  
A suburban family man has a mid-life crisis when he becomes infatuated with a friend of his teenage daughter. Struggling to cope with the unhealthy attention her father is lavishing on her friend, the girl begins a tentative relationship of her own, while her harassed mother is also having an affair. Sam Mendes' Oscar-winning black comedy drama, starring Kevin Spacey, Annette Bening and Thora Birch. (1999)

# Reece plays it straight in a new police drama

Comedy can be a funny business. One minute you're at the top of the tree, the next you can be forgotten, a spent force no longer able to raise a smile.

When the Monty Python TV series ended, nobody knew what the future would hold for its members.

Some observers thought they may vanish without a trace, but in fact, they all went on to enjoy varying degrees of success – for them, the sum of the whole was not greater than the parts.

The same could be said about the League of Gentlemen team. Jeremy Dyson (the one everybody always forgets about) has enjoyed success in the fields of writing and directing, while Steve Pemberton is an instantly recognisable character actor and Mark Gatiss is a lovable polymath.

For a while it seemed that Reece Shearsmith might not reach the heights of his colleagues, but in the past year that's all changed.

Inside Number 9, the series he wrote and starred in with Pemberton, was a resounding success, and he also reinvented himself as a dramatic actor with roles in the horror movie

A Field in England and on the small screen in The Widow.

He's playing it straight again in new series **Chasing Shadows, ITV, 9.00pm.**

"I'm probably what you would describe as a character actor and I do immerse myself in the parts," says Shearsmith.

"I don't get recognised a lot because I'm usually disguised on screen. I quite like the level I'm at where I can have a normal life and walk around. The work is the thing that speaks for me. I'm not really a personality. I just do the acting and that's what I want people to see."

That may all change if Chasing Shadows is a major success and returns for another series after this initial run of four episodes.

The Hull-born actor reckons it could continue. "I'd love to do more. I think it's only the start of what could be a really interesting journey for all of the characters. There are so many stories that could be told."

Shearsmith plays DS Sean Stone, a misfit who struggles to deal with

people and is reassigned to a missing person's unit after offending his boss.

There he meets Ruth Hattersley, who learns to deal with Sean's odd quirks and habits, and quickly realises how useful he could be when it comes to finding lost souls.

Alex Kingston portrays her, and Noel Clarke has been cast as their boss, DI Prior.

Their first case involves the disappearance of 16-year-old schoolgirl Taylor, and will be told over two nail-biting episodes.

She's initially thought to be a routine runaway, until Sean discovers she had a dark secret and was logging into internet forums about suicide.

We won't give away what happens next, but Sean's attention to detail enables him and Ruth to uncover something very shocking indeed.

It's an unforgettable story, and after it has been broadcast, you can bet that Shearsmith won't be able to stay anonymous for long.

Don Warrington, Adjoa Andoh, Alfie Field, Lynda Baron, Myriam Achari and Imogen Daines also star.



Reece Shearsmith stars in Chasing Shadows, Thursday, ITV, 9pm

## BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**  
**Long Lost Family, ITV, 9pm**  
It may be an award-winning, emotionally wrenching TV series, but we're almost glad Long Lost Family is coming to an end this week – our tear ducts need a break. They'll get one final workout this week though as we meet 53-year-old Sandra Macdonald, who was given up for adoption as a baby. Growing up in Edinburgh, she never felt fully accepted by her adoptive family, and at the age of 15 she decided to search for her biological mother. She began her journey at the offices of the church organisation, where she was told that her mother had sinned and wouldn't want to be reminded of her transgressions. Now the Long Lost Family pick up the case.

**Alex Polizzi: The Fixer, BBC2, 9pm**  
The hotelier and entrepreneur returns to help more struggling firms, this time finding solutions for certain critical issues that lead to the closure of many companies. She begins by visiting Paul Walker, who set up a micro-brewery in the heart of the Devon countryside, but has seen his finances spiral out of control and his family life begin to suffer. Alex shows him how to capitalise on the growing popularity of British real ale overseas, with a trip to Paris revealing interesting export opportunities for his products.

**TUESDAY**  
**Dogs: Their Secret Lives, Channel 4, 8pm**  
Dogs are pretty great creatures. They love hanging out with their human buddies and don't seem to have a care in the world – or do they? We wouldn't normally associate canines with mental health issues, but the final episode of this eye-opening series suggests that some of their most extreme behaviours could indicate they are suffering from certain issues, including obsessive compulsion and chronic fears.

**In the Club, BBC1, 9pm**  
Jasmin is furious with Dr Bellingham for inducing her labour, worried whether her marriage will survive if the baby turns out to be white – and things go from bad to worse when she encounters Jack in the hospital after his fight with Dev. Kim is left to mend her fractured relationship with Susie and Neil following the revelation that Jude is the father of Rosie's baby, while Diane and Rick are optimistic as Hope is taken off the ventilator. Kay Mellor's drama, starring Taj Atwal, Sacha Dhawan and Jill Halfpenny.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Our Zoo, BBC1, 9pm**  
New series. Drama based on the true story of the Mottershead family, who made a huge personal sacrifice to establish Chester Zoo in the 1930s – despite staunch opposition from the locals. Lee Ingleby stars as ex-serviceman George, still haunted by memories of the First World War and frustrated that he and his family have to live with his parents. An animal lover, he is unable to stand by while an unwanted monkey and camel are put down in the quarantine bay at the docks, so he houses the animals in his mum and dad's backyard.



Our Zoo, Wednesday, BBC1, 9pm

**THURSDAY**  
**Dallas, Channel 5, 10pm**  
As series three kicks off, Sue Ellen is busy planning John Ross and Pamela's wedding. And what's the first rule of celebrations in soap land? That's right, they never go off without a fight. In this case the groom clashes with Bobby over their joint ownership of Southfork Ranch. As if that's not controversial enough, he also begins an affair with Emma. Meanwhile, Elena is back, and it seems her relationship with Christopher is beyond repair. Veteran favourites Linda Gray and Patrick Duffy star with Josh Henderson, Jordana Brewster and Jesse Metcalfe.

**FRIDAY**  
**Boomers, BBC1, 9pm**  
The friends gather for Joyce's retirement party, where John has made a tribute video – but forgotten to ask Trevor for his tribute – Maureen latches onto a trendy young couple at the party and Alan has bad news that might ruin proceedings – unless the guest of honour spoils it first by confronting her neighbour about her kids' unruly behaviour. Alison Steadman and Philip Jackson star in the sitcom, with Russ Abbot, Stephanie Beacham, Paula Wilcox and James Smith.

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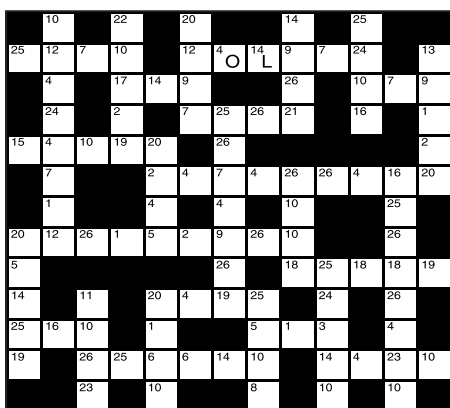
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## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

A	U	R	F	G	Z	J	D	V	Y	H	E	W
K	L	S	O	X	I	N	B	T	C	M	Q	P

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

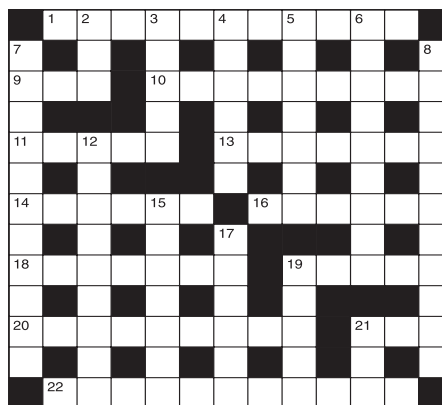
### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

- Country gets clear profit with her estates (11)
- 9 & 19Ac. Communist clue! That indicates danger (3,5)
10. A shout by one about to become engaged! (6-3)
11. Call on six not to stand (5)
13. A revolutionary means of getting power (7)
14. Basic principles for camping accommodation around the East (6)
16. Not too late eventually (2,4)
- 18 & 3Dn. Usual custom normally assumed by the monk? (7,5)
19. See 9 Across
20. Made arrangements for grandiose transformation (9)
21. A title among the honours I received (3)
22. Entice press to show tenacity (11)

#### Down

- Arrive at some conclusion in open discussion (3)
- See 18 Across
- Go round to put back in charge (6)
- Plane section made from one rail (8)
- Refusing to be showing signs of old age (9)
- But it's not usually the ranker's accommodation! (7,4)
- Printing workers do some key work with crossword compilers! (4-7)
- Mosaic form will be used in this service building (9)
- Natural gifts with parabolic associations (7)
- Peaks shown by the others in the Civil Service (6)
- Shelf too short for the account book... (5)
- ...and so is this container for wine! (3)



### Quick Clues:

#### Across

- Astronautics (5,6)
- Fresh (3)
- Flattery (9)
- Unconcealed (5)
- Letter (7)
- Career (6)
- Niggardly person (6)
- Put back (7)
- Live (5)
- Immunity (9)
- Court (3)
- In any case (2,3,6)

#### Down

- Seat (3)
- Map (5)
- Went round (6)
- Greed (7)
- Being (9)
- Apathetic (11)
- Revolting (2,9)
- Apparatus (9)
- Surgeon's knife (7)
- Contrive (6)
- Dullard (5)
- Damp (3)

## Sudoku

				4		3		
2	3			5			8	1
1			2		9			7
	1		8		3		5	
		2				8		
8	4		6		5		1	
4			3		1			5
3	7						4	8
				9		1		

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	4	7	1	8	2	3	9	6
1	2	6	5	3	9	4	7	8
9	3	8	7	4	6	2	1	5
4	1	5	9	7	8	6	3	2
3	8	2	6	5	1	7	4	9
7	6	9	4	2	3	8	5	1
2	9	4	3	6	5	1	8	7
6	7	1	8	9	4	5	2	3
8	5	3	2	1	7	9	6	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Post; 3 Forwards; 9 Nonsense; 10 Total; 11 Highland reel; 13 Noting; 15 Litter; 17 Single ticket; 20 Ample; 21 Theatre; 22 Baronial; 23 Ayes. Down: 1 Penchant; 2 Sling; 4 Oceans; 5 Water-diviner; 6 Retreat; 7 Sole; 8 Bowling-green; 12 Brothers; 14 Tripper; 16 Bertha; 18 Kitty; 19 Jamb. QUICK - Across: 1 Gull; 3 Produced; 9 Martial; 10 Side; 11 Independence; 13 Expose; 15 Outlaw; 17 Degeneration; 20 Amass; 21 Doleful; 22 Fall down; 23 Arid. Down: 1 Combined; 2 Lurid; 4 Relent; 5 Disreputable; 6 Codicil; 7 Deed; 8 Dispossessed; 12 Swindled; 14 Prevail; 16 Meadow; 18 Infer; 19 Waif.

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Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel, with full English breakfast (plus dinner for Dine and Dance options).

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\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability – supplements apply.

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Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions



# Imposing residence with six bedrooms



**A SIX bedroomed detached house in Brunswick Gate, Quarry Park Road, Pedmore, Stourbridge, is a fine imposing residence.**

It is in an exclusive gated development and is for sale through Andrew Grant at £930,000.

The house has an entrance hall with a stunning split central staircase off, drawing room, dining room, family room, breakfast kitchen, a utility room, fitted cloakroom/WC, cloak/boot room and study. There is a galleried landing to a master bedroom with dressing room and en-suite bathroom. Contact Andrew Grant on 01384 370232 or at [www.andrew-grant.co.uk](http://www.andrew-grant.co.uk)



# Extended and improved detached family home



**A DISTINCTIVE character 1930s detached family home, 36 Moss Grove, Kingswinford has been thoughtfully extended, improved and re-appointed.**

It is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £460,000.

There is a secure gated "in and out" driveway with ample parking, a tandem garage and gardens. The reception hall has wood flooring, and the a lounge a feature fireplace. There is a dining room, combined kitchen and conservatory with double doors to the garden, utility and WC.

It has four bedrooms, a study/fifth bedroom, bathroom with a white suite including a roll top bath on feet, tiled shower and a ladder radiator, master bedroom with wardrobes, fitted furniture and a refitted en-suite.

Contact Lee Shaw on 01384 287622 or visit [www.leeshaw.com](http://www.leeshaw.com)



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**CRADLEY HEATH, Station Road**£1,200 pcm - Fees  
A rectangular shaped site with access off Station Road ideally suited for 40 cars. Newly tarmac-ed, new fencing and gates. We understand that water and electricity is available on site subject to connection costs. The site can also be split into 2 x 20 car sales pitches at £650pcm each



**ROWLEY REGIS, Spring Vale Road**£695 pcm - Fees  
An opportunity to acquire a well maintained traditional three bedroom detached property situated in a popular residential location in a quiet cul-de-sac close to local schools, amenities and road links. Featuring a large living room, fitted kitchen with a double range cooker, downstairs w.c., 2 double & 1 single bedroom/study. Bathroom with shower, driveway/garage. A lovely property not to be missed. EPC: TBC



**ROWLEY REGIS, Queens Drive**£660 pcm - Fees  
A fully refurbished traditional 3 bedroom semi detached house in a popular location. This house features a welcoming entrance hall, front lounge with a bay window, brand new fitted kitchen/diner, brand new bathroom with shower, off road parking for 2 vehicles, rear garden, gas central heating, double glazing. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Hunnington Crescent**£650 pcm - Fees  
Recently redecorated and carpeted. This huge 3 bedroom town house has had a full redecoration, carpets and boiler. This house will not stay around for long as its so close to Halesowen Town Centre. Featuring 3 bedrooms, a large lounge with stunning views, bathroom with shower, driveway and garage parking, downstairs w.c., small low maintenance rear garden. EPC: TBC



**ROWLEY REGIS, Alwin Road**£650 pcm - Fees  
This detached house in a cul-de-sac location. Located close to local shops and transport links. Featuring gas central heating, living room, dining area, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden, driveway parking, unfurnished. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Haden Arch Court**£575 pcm - Fees  
Contemporary living in Halesowen. This 1st floor spacious apartment above the archway, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre and buses, the apartment features gas central heating, double glazing, open plan living room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with separate shower cubicle, allocated parking. EPC: B



**TIPTON, Carnegie Road** £550 pcm - Fees  
Modern 2 bed semi detached house having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Situated in a cul de sac location offering well maintained accommodation which briefly comprises: reception hall, fitted kitchen, lounge, conservatory leading to private rear garden. Bathroom with shower over bath, driveway for 1 car. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Spring Street**£550 pcm - Fees  
Well presented 3 bedroom mid terrace house benefitting from gas central heating, double glazing, 2 reception rooms with laminate flooring, both with contemporary style fireplace. A well equipped kitchen with appliances, downstairs walk-in wet room, 2 double and 1 single bedrooms. A gardener is included in the rental. Available immediately. EPC: F



**CRADLEY HEATH, Luanne Close**£525 pcm - Fees  
Wonderfully presented and with its own balcony. A 1st floor modern apartment, ideally located for Old Hill train station and local shops benefits from 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, modern kitchen with washer/dryer, lovely lounge with access to your own private balcony, house bathroom with shower, allocated parking. EPC: B



**HALESOWEN, Cross Street**£495 pcm - Fees  
Beautifully presented and very close to Halesowen Town Centre. This lovely ground floor maisonette features 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, dining kitchen, brand new bathroom with shower, private rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars. EPC: E



**HALESOWEN, Upper Ashley Streets**£475 pcm - Fees  
Set in this quiet residential area close to Blackheath Town Centre is this lovely semi detached home featuring lounge, fitted kitchen with gas oven/hob, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric heating, parking, unfurnished. EPC: TBC



**NETHERTON, Round Street**£475 pcm - Fees  
Set in a quiet road, is this lovely semi-detached home. Featuring gas central heating, 1 reception room, fitted kitchen, 1 double and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars. Popular residential street close to Netherton High Street. 2 months deposit and a guarantor is required. (THE GUARANTOR MUST BE A HOME OWNER, FAMILY MEMBER AND WORKING). EPC: D



**CRADLEY HEATH, Hingley Court**£460 pcm - Fees  
Freshly redecorated and in the centre of Old Hill. This lovely ground floor apartment features an open plan lounge/kitchen with a washer/dryer and a small fridge, 2 large double bedrooms, modern bathroom with shower, 1 allocated parking space behind electric gates. Not to be missed. Available now. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Hagley Road**£450 pcm - Fees  
An immaculately presented ground floor 1 bedroom flat, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre. Featuring an open plan living room/modern fitted kitchen with integrated fridge/freezer and washing machine, bathroom with shower over bath, allocated parking space, unfurnished. EPC: C



**CRADLEY HEATH, King Street**£450 pcm - Fees  
Located in the heart of Old Hill. Ideally situated for local shops, buses and train links is this unfurnished 1st floor modern apartment which comprises of 1 double bedroom, fitted kitchen with a small fridge, spacious lounge, double glazing, electric heating, bathroom with shower, allocated parking space. EPC: D



**ROWLEY REGIS, Oldbury Road**£425 pcm - Fees  
Recently refurbished, very generous sized unfurnished flat above shop. Gas central heating, part double glazing, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen, 1 bedroom, bathroom with shower, on road parking. Rent includes water rates. EPC: E



**CRADLEY HEATH, Archer Gardens**£425 pcm - Fees  
Set within a quiet complex, close to Cradley Heath town centre and the local train station, is this unfurnished ground floor maisonette, benefiting from gas central heating (bathroom), electric heating in the lounge and bedrooms, large living room with separate dining area, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, communal gardens and allocated parking. EPC: G



**CRADLEY HEATH, Halesowen Road**£400 pcm - Fees  
This value for money unfurnished terraced house, close to Old Hill Town Centre and Old Hill Train Station. Featuring 2 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, gas central heating, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with appliances, downstairs bathroom with shower, on road parking. NO REAR GARDEN. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, Pippin Avenue**£395 pcm - Fees  
1st MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE! An unfurnished, modern, spacious ground floor flat on this popular estate and briefly comprising: open plan living room/fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, full double glazing, parking space. A minimum contract of 12 months is required. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, Apperley Way**£395 pcm - Fees  
An unfurnished ground floor flat on this popular estate, close to Cradley Heath train station and bus links. Featuring a spacious living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, full double glazing, parking space. Additional fees will apply. EPC: F



**CRADLEY HEATH, Trinity Street**£375 pcm - Fees  
House share in a large Victorian semi-detached home. Large furnished double bedroom available in this lovely period house. Kitchen, bathroom and large lounge are all shared facilities. Wi-Fi broadband. Rent to include all bills. 2 people sharing will be £100 pcm extra. EPC: E





# One L of a pick-up

By David Banner

**The L200 does the lifestyle pick-up thing better than any other model.**

It offers more adventurous styling and high spec versions called Warrior and Barbarian with lots of equipment. The underlying vehicle is more of a mixed bag. Build quality and road manners could be better but the L200 is manoeuvrable, tough and looks like good value for money.

Whichever L200 model you choose, and there are quite a few of them, there's a 2.5-litre common-rail injection diesel engine up front doing the hard work. In standard form, this engine turns in a healthy 134bhp and torque of 314Nm at 2,000rpm but a high power option is also available that tickles the output up to a macho 175bhp with 400Nm at 2,000rpm in manual form. This latter unit is capable of hitting 62mph from standstill in 12.1s before rumbling on to a 111mph top speed.

The less powerful L200s take 15s to reach 62mph and will eventually attain 103mph. The five-speed manual gearbox comes as standard but a five-speed automatic is also offered that features a Sport mode.

The L200 rides on a no-nonsense ladder frame chassis with multi-link front suspension and heavy duty leaf springs at the rear. It's the standard set-up in the pick-up world and what it lacks in finesse on the tarmac it makes up for in strength and ability in the rough. Pick-up ride quality always leaves something to be desired compared to 4x4 passenger cars but the L200 doesn't do too badly.

Some pick-ups have entry-level front-wheel-drive versions but not the L200. Whether it's the Easy Select 4WD system on the entry-level models or the Super Select 4WD set-up on the

range-topping versions, all have all-wheel-drive. Easy Select models should be run in 2WD mode in normal conditions with a locked 4WD mode selectable on low friction surfaces.

The Super Select is an advanced full time 4x4 set-up similar to that found in Mitsubishi's Shogun. It allows the L200 to be driven in 2WD or fulltime 4WD mode on the road without the excessive wear and tear suffered by part time systems as a result of transmission wind-up. In slippery off-road situations, a further 4WD mode can be selected which maximises traction by locking the centre differential. Both of the systems are operated by the traditional and rather clunky lever sited alongside the gear stick which seems slightly dated when compared to the dash-mounted dials used by rival manufacturers.

## Extensive

There are three basic bodystyles to mull over. The single cab is reserved very much for businesses that need a proper old school working pick-up. Its traditional two seats and extensive 2,220mm load length mean it prioritises cargo over cabin and it's only offered in the base trims. The second option is the Club cab. This is for single cab customers who might occasionally need to transport more than one passenger. It offers a 1,805mm load length with additional capacity behind the cabin's front seats for secure storage or to seat a couple of small ones.

Most L200 customers opt for a double cab body, a variant offered in any trim level you like. This is a four-door five-seater model with a decent amount of legroom for the rear passengers and seat backs angled at a comfortable 25 degrees. There has to be a compromise for this extra passenger space and it comes in the shape of a modest 1,325mm load length in standard guise. The solution is the Long Bed version of this model with an extra 18cms of load length.



Whichever L200 bodystyle you choose, it will have a 1,085mm load width, a capacity to carry in excess of 1,000kg and a 2,700kg braked trailer towing limit.

The L200 trim level range reflects its goal of catering for business and private buyers. You have 4Work models at the base of the range equipped only with the basics. That means CD stereo, steel wheels, and the basic Easy Select 4x4 system. 4Life is a little plusher with air-conditioning, electric windows and keyless entry but still has the utilitarian feel. Beyond that, we reach the high series L200s, double cab versions dubbed Warrior and Barbarian. These

are the bigger sellers and the models that really crossover between business and pleasure usage.

All of the high series L200 models feature the M-ASTC traction and stability control system as standard which is a really useful addition. The Warrior also features 17" alloy wheels, body-coloured wheel-arches, cruise control and climate control.

The Barbarian is actually rather civilised, adding a colour screen satellite navigation system, a reversing camera, full leather trim and numerous styling accessories.

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## Clear move from diesels

New car buyers are moving back towards petrol engines after years of diesel domination, if Ford's latest sales figures are any guide.

The company has revealed that its multi-award-winning 1.0-litre EcoBoost turbocharged petrol engine now powers one in every five cars sold in Europe, totalling 120,000 vehicles from January to the end of June.

That figure is an increase from 104,000 1.0-litre EcoBoost-powered cars sold in the same period in 2013.

Within the statistics there is a clear move away from diesel in some sectors, with the B-Max showing 47 per cent of sales going to the smallest EcoBoost unit. One third (33 per cent) of Focus buyers also went for the same engine.

"Customers are clearly enjoying the benefits from a small engine that offers great fuel efficiency with no compromise to refinement or performance,"

said Barb Samardzich, chief operating officer, Ford of Europe.

"The range of models offering the 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine will rise to 11 when the all-new Mondeo is launched in the coming months, and the new 140 PS version in the Fiesta Red Edition and Black Edition shows there is even more potential."

The engine is the first to win the international Engine of the Year accolade three times running, and is available in 99bhp, 123bhp and 138bhp versions according to model choice.



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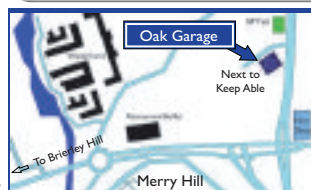
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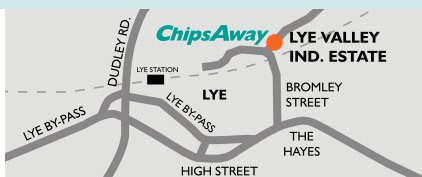
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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic 1.6i-DTEC Black Special Edition in mpg (l/100km): Urban 70.6 (4.0), Extra Urban 85.6 (3.3), Combined 78.5 (3.6). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 94 g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes & may not reflect real life driving experience.

Model Shown: Civic 1.6i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,460 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Civic registered from 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Civic Black Special Edition Honda Aspirations (PCP): Example shown based on Civic 1.6i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,460 total cash price (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £0 (0%) deposit, £408.29 monthly payment, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £7,761.73 annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 60p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due; the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. Honda Finance Europe Plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Financial Services Register number 312541. The 5 Year Care Package includes: Servicing: All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. Warranty: In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. Roadside Assist: In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary HondaCare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. The 5 Year Care Package: The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £555 including VAT (usual value £1,845 including VAT, resulting in a £1,290 saving for the customer) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.



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Models shown: Alto 1.0 SZ4 available at £7,999 on the road, includes customer saving of £1,600 (metallic paint available at £399). Splash 1.2 SZ4 available at £9,899 on the road, includes customer saving of £1,980 (metallic paint available at £415). Swift 1.2 SZ4 5dr available at £11,415 on the road, includes customer saving of £2,284 (metallic paint available at £430). Alto, Splash and Swift range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): Urban from 40.9 (6.9) to 55.4 (5.1), extra urban from 56.5 (5.0) to 78.5 (3.6), combined from 49.6 (5.7) to 67.3 (4.2). Official CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 131 g/km to 109 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. \*VAT free offer on Alto, Splash and Swift range: Alto 1.0 SZ available from £5,999, including customer saving of £1,200 to Alto 1.0 SZ4 A/T available at £8,625 including customer saving of £1,724 equivalent to VAT amount of previous on the road price of £7,199 (SZ) and £10,349 (SZ4 A/T). Splash 1.0 SZ2 available at £7,999, including customer saving of £1,600 to Splash 1.2 SZ4 A/T available at £10,645 including a customer saving of £2,129 equivalent to VAT amount of previous on the road price of £9,599 (SZ2) and £12,774 (SZ4 A/T). Swift 1.2 SZ2 3dr available at £8,999, including a customer saving of £1,300 to Swift 1.2 SZ4 5dr available at £13,699 including customer saving of £2,740 equivalent to VAT amount of previous on the road price of £10,799 (SZ2 3dr) and £16,439 (SZ4 5dr 4x4). VAT Free offer excludes Swift Sport. VAT equivalent reduction is not available on vehicle options or accessories. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st July 2014 to 30th September 2014 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print.

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## In search of the Northern Lights

Evening excursion departing November 19, January 21 and February 18

Pick of the week



PRICE FROM **£199.<sup>95</sup>**

Enjoy a unique flight through a star-studded panorama to search for nature's very own spectacular light show.

The evening starts with an interesting illustrated 60-minute presentation about the night sky and the Northern Lights by a guest astronomer

Following the presentation and with sky-scanning appetites whetted, join the aircraft for the flight which heads northwards, as directly as possible, usually over Aberdeen and the Shetlands Isles, to a point in the North Atlantic at the limit of UK airspace.

The flight will last for between 3 and 3¼ hours, during which the cabin lights will be dimmed to see the Northern Lights display, and passengers will be asked to rotate seats regularly so that everyone will have a window seat at various times throughout the flight.

The lights may appear as simply a vague glow in the sky or as a curtaining effect consisting of parallel rays, often enhanced by folds called striations. The colours seen are mainly green with rarer occurrences of red and blue.

*Please note: the Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and there is no guarantee they will occur during the flight, though they have been visible on many previous outings.*

### INFO

- Pre-flight illustrated presentation by expert astronomers
- Flight in search of the Northern lights of around 3–3¼ hours
- Services of the astronomers on board
- Light refreshments on board
- Services of a tour manager

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782, ATOL 6081)

## Carols with the Stars at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 9



PRICE FROM **£129**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Circle ticket for the Carols with the Stars concert
- Short panoramic London sightseeing tour
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

## York St Nicholas Christmas Fayre

Two days departing November 29



PRICE FROM **£99**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to York Christmas Fayre
- Visit to Harrogate Christmas market
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Liverpool and Manchester Shopper

Two days departing November 29



PRICE FROM **£99.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to the Manchester Christmas markets
- Free time in Liverpool
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

## Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Two days departing November 14



PRICE FROM **£159.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Admission and coach transfer to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- Free time in Kings Lynn and Cambridge
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

## Jersey

Four to eight days various departure dates



PRICE FROM **£265\***

- Return flights
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- Half-board option offered for a supplement
- Special offers apply for certain dates (see brochure for details)
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\*From price is based on four-day breaks  
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## Self-drive London Theatre breaks

Two days various departure dates



PRICE FROM **£89.<sup>95</sup>**

- Ticket for the Friday or Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice (top price ticket on Friday, standard price ticket on Saturday – upgrades offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

*Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show*  
Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

## Bath and Colours of the Cotswolds

Three days departing October 31



PRICE FROM **£149.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Visits to Bath and Lacock
- Entrance and guided walk at Westonbirt
- Tour of the Cotswolds
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

## London Eye and Thames River Cruise

Two days departing Oct 25, Nov 22, Dec 13



PRICE FROM **£149.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation at a four-star outer London hotel
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- Free time in London
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## Pompeii, Capri and the Bay of Naples

Eight days  
Various departure dates 2014 and 2015



PRICE FROM **£759**

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- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Guided tours of Pompeii and Sorrento
- Visits to Naples and Ravello
- Cruise to Capri
- Visit to the volcano of Vesuvius
- Tour of the Amalfi coast
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally  
Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

## Mickey's Fireworks and Bonfire

at Disneyland® Paris

Three days departing November 4



PRICE FROM **£215\***

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\*Based on two adults sharing, children aged 3-11 from £119 (conditions apply)  
**Please note this trip cannot be booked online**  
Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

## Krakow

Four days  
Various departure dates 2014 and 2015



PRICE FROM **£419**

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- Guided sightseeing tour of Krakow
- Visit to the castle district
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**SONYA** slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active, WLTm N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441**

**CHRISTINA**, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 410127**

**SOPHIA** very sensual black lady looking to acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413399**

**EMMA** petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207**

**ZOE**, 25yrs, very naughty seeks man any age for broad minded no strings fun and games. **Tel No: 0905 002 1933 Box 409719**

**FELICITY** professional female, 32yrs, blonde, curvy, fun. Travels a lot and wltm chap for occasional fun on my travels. **Text only Box: 4459438**

**EUROPEAN** beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to find out more. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013**

**KAREN** 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413005**

**SUE**, 38yrs, passionate, broadminded and feisty seeks discreet fun with "mr wrong". **ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box 413007**

**ROSA** 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. **Age/race unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927**

**LORRAINE** 5ft 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, looking for someone to look after me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543**

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**CAROL** young 47, caring, loyal, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with lots of interests for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919**

**PROFESSIONAL** black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeks male, honest, reliable gent, possibly farmer for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411763**

**VICKY** 37yr professional, mum to one, sensual and very attractive, looking for a real man, tall, fit, sincere and passionate to enjoy each other's company. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411695**

**LUCY** beautiful bubbly bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty boy to enjoy the fun side of life with, age, status and looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691**

**LINDA** single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, WLTm similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410119**

**WIDOW** 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes music, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411745**

**JEAN** young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, outings, WLTm sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411711**

**TINA** sexy black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411519**

**LYNNE** young looking attractive Indian female with GSOH and down to earth attitude, looking for likeminded male for date nights, hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411219**

**EMMIE** 50, attractive brunette, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music reading, seeks genuine, friendly professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411281**

**RETIRE**d happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411455**

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**RITA** naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959**

**SUE** 34, likes most things in life, even football looking for my Mr Wonderful though I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to loose, call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410765**

**CAROL** slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va vo vom, 35-45. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717**

**SUSAN** 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411325**

**ANGIE** attractive slim blonde just looking for a lovely spontaneous guy who like me just wants good company and a nice relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410641**

**JANE** attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. No time wasters please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715**

**KATHERINE** 35yr old outgoing single female looking to enjoy dates with similar male sans looking for fun times in or out. Age, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410565**

**PAULINE** attractive divorced female with no ties, employed with my own home, likes nights in/out, lots of flc to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411039**

**JEN** attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's you pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410949**

**ARE** you dark or bald, with hairy chest, well built, educated, verbal, articulate dom or sub, broadminded and ready to be put in your place? Curious to find out more? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410637**

**29YR** old black beautiful busty tall loving very sensual lady, likes football, making friends, seeking genuine white male for enjoyable loving relationship, pls no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410577**

**YOUNG** early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847**

**CAROL** 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410721**

**CLAIRE** voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine, good travel, WLTm tall professional for romance dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410627**

**MICHELLE** 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you could be him and have nothing to loose call me for a chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415**

**TAYLOR** 21 black beautiful classy intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409911**

**WENDY** 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410499**

**73YR** old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410331**

**NICKY** bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking N/S male with GSOH for possible ltr. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479**

**KAREN** 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc, WLTm for more than just friendship with similar chilled, kind, easy going guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410461**

**LIZ** 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410395**

**JILL** 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410105**

**ATTRACTIVE** professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408955**

**ELAINE** attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410117**

**DONNA** 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409733**

**28YR** old female, seeking male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408639**

**MARGARET** OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things WLTm caring male with similar refined tastes. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407925**

**ATTRACTIVE** 49yr old divorced lady, looking for honest, reliable man for LTR, 49-60. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409555**

**ABBA** girl blonde lookalike, size 16, attractive, bubbly, OHAC, seeking solvent, refined, handsome guy with full head of hair, 5ft 9ins plus, professional and courteous. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409151**

**NEETA** Black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to enjoy life, have lots of fun and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age, looks and status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409101**



**Hi I'm** Jo, first timer, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409089**

**SUSIE** 32yr old nurse who likes cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408877**

**BABS** 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat out, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407943**

**BUBBLY** 60 plus lady, slim, fair hair, comfy in jeans and leather jacket, seeks similar male for friendship etc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408859**

**JOANNA** 34, in need of flc, winning, dining being treated like the princess I am, looking for sugar daddy, that someone special to love me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408869**

**MARIA** gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408733**

**KIM** attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408489**

**TAYLOR** attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open minded male who is also looking for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408311**

Men seeking women

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**MALE** 42, 5ft 5, med build, wltm lady/single mum for friendship maybe more. No time wasters. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4473878**

**GEORGE** 60 seeks Asian/Oriental female for no strings fun and weekends away. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413707**

**STEVE** 60, seeks slim blonde for no strings fun and weekends away. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413703**

**MALE** seeking female companion for outings, friendship and holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412705**

**ROBERT** 59, N/S, fit, slim, seeks attractive slim female for discreet no strings friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413655**

**MALE** 49, 6ft, seeks lady for discreet fun times, 49-60. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757**

**ALAN** 49, seeks lady for discreet no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757**

**BLACK** guy 68, feels 45, looks 40, seeks female, 58-71, GSOH, genuine, caring for fun times and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413375**

**TALL** Indian gent, 53, seeks sensual lady for friendship plus, interesting chap, discreet days in and nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413315**

**JOHN** 70, tall, slim, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413183**

**GENT** widower, late 60's, looks younger, GSOH, likes music, good food, country pursuits, seeks female, 50-60 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413173**

**TONY** young looking 50's male, 5ft 8ins, many interests, easy going, seeks slim rock chick or similar for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413275**

**6FT** 1ins slim, dark hair, likes walking, animals, seeking medium build female, 60-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413193**

**JEFF** young 62, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413053**

**JOHN** 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, various interests, seeks female for friendship/relationship. **35-52. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413107**

**RETIRE**d male, seeking no strings adult fun and frolics, discretion assured, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413067**

**TONY** young looking 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks slim rock chick, trendy for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413049**

**KEVIN** 53, looking for a friend/partner and a lover. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412869**

**NORTH** Shropshire male, 67, N/S, solvent, GSOH, likes walks, travel, music, holidays, countryside, seeks N/S lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412867**

**MAURICE** gentleman, 59, gentle, kind, caring, loving, generous, seeks lady with GSOH and similar personality, slim-medium build. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412859**

**STEPHEN** 58, good looking, likes art, travel, seeking female, 50 plus for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412633**

**MALCOLM** 61, smoker, great personality, likes coach holidays, drives, pubs, meals out, nights out, 60's music, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412523**

**TONY** 52, dark hair, white male, 6ft, confident, GSOH, seeks black female. Genuine ad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412481**

**TALL** 42yr old sincere male, caring, honest, loving, seeking female, 30-40 for fun, friendship and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412483**

**ALAN** tall widower, 76, looking for female of similar age who enjoys meals out, holidays, walks and holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412261**

**ROY** mid 60's, N/S, car driver, young outlook, seeks lady for friendship. West Bromwich area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412083**

**TALL** slim gent, 60, seeks slim, attractive lady for no strings relationship. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412227**

**IAN** 65, romantic, likes to wine/dine, days out, seeking younger female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412087**

**MARK** fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, tanned, looking for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989**

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**FT** bubbly male, athletic, blue eyes, short fair hair, easy going, loving, GSOH, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411901**

**TALL** attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823**

**TIGER** Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801**

**MALE** 74, fit, N/S, OHAC, seeks slim lady of similar age for date, holidays and walks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411673**

**TALL** mature male, seeks younger, attractive mixed race lady for spoiling and pampering. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411505**

**PHIL** genuine male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411461**

**DEE** 49, divorced, handsome, fit, slim, seeks lady, any age for lasting, meaningful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411415**

**MARK** 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906**



# Downing on the spot for Tividale

**Tividale 2 Sheffield 1**  
TIVIDALE maintained their perfect start to the Evo-Sik First Division South season with their third win in a row.

The latest victims of the league's new-boys were the football club recognised as the oldest in the world, Sheffield FC - on the weekend Tividale celebrated their own 60th anniversary.

Tividale got off to a dream start on six minutes. Sheffield were forced to give away a corner, then failed to get any distance with the clearance and Lewis Taylor-Boyce picked up the loose ball, beat his marker and fired into the bottom corner.

Sheffield were level though on 35 minutes. Left-winger James Gregory, with a great turn of pace, got to the bye-line and his low driven cross was side-footed home by Joel Purkiss.

The game was not settled until stoppage time, however.

Tividale sub Leigh Downing collected a pass in the box with his back to goal and looked to be going nowhere, but Sheffield defender Brandon Caldwell dived in and brought him down. For the second time in five days Downing made no mistake from the spot.

# Steelmen show their six appeal

**Bilston Town 6 Cradley Town 1**  
BILSTON Town turned in a stunning first-half performance as they whipped Cradley Town 6-1 in the West Midlands Premier Division.

Right from the start Bilston pressed the visitors into their own half with a fast tempo game that Cradley just couldn't come to terms with. Mark Habbershaw headed the opener in 12 minutes, with further goals from Liam Morris, Matt Fulloway, Mike Nelson and then Habbershaw again before the break. Substitute Jordan Brown added a sixth in the second half.

Chris Bladen scored a consolation goal for Cradley in the last five minutes of the game.

# Wednesbury face huge test in 50 point rout

**Woodrush RUFC 50 Wednesbury RUFC 0**  
WEDNESBURY travelled to Woodrush RFC for their first Pre-Season test and a huge test it proved to be as they were kept out of their opponents try zone.

With it being a holiday weekend, Wednesbury were missing no less than 28 of the senior squad, however they still managed to take along 19 players which was a superb effort under the circumstances.

The Wednesbury squad welcomed back Danny Till after four years away from the game and to new players Rich Pugh, Mojeed Sulayman and Joe Bruadomo.

The game was to be played over four 20

**Rugby**

minute periods to allow plenty of changes. Wednesbury were quite comfortably beaten. Woodrush were an excellent side and showed a back line master class Wednesbury could not deal with carving opportunities at will from first and second phase.

Defensively Wednesbury were not on song and it doesn't take a genius to recognise there is plenty of work for the coaches to do in this area over the coming weeks but a challenge that will be met by them and

the players alike. Even after being beaten 0-50 managed to remain positive.

They were a credit to WRUFC and put tons of effort in and the squad's attitude, desire and heart was superb throughout the whole of the match.

The game itself, although dominated by Woodrush, saw some real high points from the Wednesbury team.

The scrum functioned really well and pressurised the Woodrush pack on many occasions with a very young front row picking up huge points for their efforts here.

The line out, all be it a brand new set of calls, functioned pretty well showing with

some extra work and practice it can be a really useful tool for our teams going forward.

A big week of training lies ahead for the squad as Wednesbury go into the first competitive fixture of the season in the cup and when their opponents will be Trentham RFC.

The side will be bolstered with a large contingent of experience back available for selection and will make the journey to Trentham full of enthusiasm and spirit from this encounter.

Man of the match was Jordan Allwood who had an outstanding game.

# Aussie hero is spot on for the Baggies

**Albion 1 Oxford 1**  
ALBION were spared ultimate cup humiliation as Jason Davidson clinched an epic penalty shoot-out win.

Davidson's spot-kick on his full debut secured a 7-6 shoot-out win for the Baggies after they had squandered a 1-0 lead in the final minutes of normal time.

An own-goal had given the hosts the lead just before the half-hour but a woeful second-half display encouraged Michael Appleton's Us, who levelled in the dying moments through Danny Hylton.

There were no goals in extra-time and, after James Morrison and Brown Ideye had missed for the Baggies and Michael Collins and Tom Newey for Oxford, Boaz Myhill saved from Jake Wright to give Davidson a chance to win it.

The Australia international found the top corner to spare the blushes of Alan Irvine's men.

## Bright

Albion made a bright start and went close in the opening moments.

First Stephane Sessegnon found some room wide on the right and crossed towards the near post, where Chris Brunt turned the ball goalwards with his chest.

Visiting keeper Max Crocombe initially fumbled the ball but was able to gather before Brunt could seize on the rebound.

Then Davidson burst down the left and pulled the ball back to the feet of Sessegnon, who tried his luck from long-range with a

## Football

skidding low shot that only just crept wide.

But Oxford found their feet to make the Baggies work a little harder.

They could have suffered, however, from Sheffield United's decision to prevent loanee goalkeeper George Long from playing in the cup as stand-in Crocombe spilled almost everything that flew at him early on.

But Crocombe could do little to prevent his side falling behind on 29 minutes through a comical own-goal. Andre Wisdom galloped forward energetically for the hosts and, when his cross was missed by Jake Wright, it hit the legs of Jonny Mullins and flew into the bottom corner.

Irvine's men might have doubled their lead when Ideye produced a smart turn and snap-shot that flew narrowly over. With four minutes remaining Oxford levelled when Hylton stooped to nod in.

In the dying seconds of extra-time Dawson's headed 'goal' from a Morrison corner was chalked off for a foul to send the tie to penalties.

Scoreless Tivs hold on to unbeaten run



Former Scholar turned Tivs man Jazz Luckie chases down the ball against Dexter Ravenhill

**Chasetown 0 Tividale 0**  
TIVIDALE preserved their unbeaten start to the Northern Premier League campaign at Chasetown, although they were unable to maintain their 100 per cent record as defences came out on top.

The visitors had a couple of long-range efforts in the first half which flashed wide, while the hosts created early chances for Richard Davies and Nick Wellecomme but neither threatened Charles Price in the away goal.

Midway through the half, Nathan Waite timed a pass to perfection to Lee Parsons, but Price rushed off his line to deny the midfielder.

Former Scholar Jazz Luckie, who only signed for Tividale at the weekend, almost marked his return to Chasetown with a goal, heading wide from six yards.

Chasetown had strong appeals for a penalty turned away.

**Chasetown:** Bateman, Johnson, Ravenhill, Slater, Robinson, Downes, Butler (Brown 68), L Parsons, Wellecomme, Waite, Davies. Subs not used: Evans, George, McDonald, Pond.

**Tividale:** Price, A Parsons, Foster, Bellis, Huckfield, Paskin, Downing, Botfield, Archer (Penny 86), Taylor-Boyce, Luckie (Wardle 76). Subs not used: Plows, Williams, Turner.

# George suffer a defeat at Great Barr

**Warwick & Worcester Premier Division 1 Great Barr 217 The George 196**  
AFTER seven straight wins and despite each team having six winners the first team suffered defeat at Great Barr.

Paul Hemming (21-8) and Stewart Meddings (21-15) were the best winners for The George while Marc Wilson, Mark Street, Ivan Smout and Phil Clinton all won by a narrow 21-17 margin which was not enough to match the Great Barr winners and The George eventually lost out by 21 shots.

**South Staffs Premier Division The George 205 Woodfield 202**  
The second team won a tight game at home to Woodfield by three shots. Wins for The George by Pete Williams (21-4) and Paddy McGuinness (21-8) made the difference.

**Warwick & Worcester Alliance Division 2 Kings Norton 180 The George 239**  
The third team secured promotion and moved to the top of the league table with this 59 shot victory at Kings Norton. The best of the nine winners for The George were 21-6 wins from Dave James and Bill Chiswell.

# Lambert is delighted at defence

**BOSS** Paul Lambert has praised Villa's new-look defence after they made it successive clean sheets to start the Premier League season.

The 0-0 draw with Newcastle followed an opening-day 1-0 success at Stoke.

Villa are yet to concede a goal this season, with new signings Philippe Senderos and Aly Cissokho, and the back in favour Alan Hutton all impressing.

And Lambert said: "We have been tougher. That's a great testament not only to the back five but also the midfield lads who are putting one hell of a shift in."

Lambert was particularly delighted with the performance of Cissokho, adding: "I thought he was outstanding."



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# SPORT

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Davidson saves the  
Baggies' blushes  
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**Unbeaten run**  
Scoreless Tivs keep  
their streak going  
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## Richards starts off a rout for Tipton

**Tipton 5 Dunkirk 0**  
TIPTON went nap against a subdued Dunkirk side to claim the points in their Midland League Premier clash.

The home side registered an opening goal in just the third minute, the commanding figure of Jemiah Richards heading home.

Visiting keeper Jake Want pulled off a string of fine saves as he appeared to be playing Town on his own, but he was beaten again after 27 minutes when Danny Carey-Bertram drove the ball home.

A little after the hour Bevas was desperately unlucky not to put Town further behind after a massive scramble deep in the visitors' penalty box.

Shortly afterwards, with Tipton again very much in command, the inevitable occurred when Josh March's through ball sent Carey-Bertram hurtling clear for him to pick his spot with ease.

Matt Ellis made it 4-0 in the 76th minute after Pitt's free-kick proved too hot to hold and Bevas poked wide just a minute later after a one on one with the keeper.

Mark Ganderton came close with a header before Bevas deservedly capped a great display when rifling home from close range.

## Big Ron tickets are going fast

RON Atkinson, one of football's most charismatic former managers, has attracted massive interest for his appearance in Wolverhampton next month.

Atkinson, who won the League Cup with Villa in 1994 and had two spells in charge of Albion during a glittering career, will be live on stage at the Cleveland Arms, Stow Heath Lane WV1 2QN on Thursday, September 25.

All VIP tickets have already been sold but some standard tickets remain.

'Big Ron' turned 75 earlier this year and admits he's enjoying life as much as ever as he looks ahead to his visit.

"I always tell people I left school at 15 and haven't worked since!" said Ron. Tickets are available in from the Cleveland Arms or on 01902 451021 or visit [clevelandarms.com](http://clevelandarms.com)

## Lowly Orient get Villa scalp in cup clash

**Villa 0 Leyton Orient 1**  
LEYTON ORIENT became the latest lower league team to inflict more cup misery on Villa.

Romain Vincelot's header three minutes from time sees Orient join Bradford in humiliating Villa in the Capital One Cup, with the Bantams famously defeating the Premier League team over a two-legged semi-final in 2013.

And earlier this year at Villa Park, Sheffield United knocked Paul Lambert's men out of the FA Cup.

Joe Cole was handed his full Villa debut.

### Football

The midfielder's inclusion was one of seven changes made by Lambert for the second-round tie.

Shay Given made his first appearance since January 2013, while Darren Bent started a game for Villa for the first time since the final day of the 2012/13 season.

Orient made six changes from their League One fixture at the weekend, one of which saw former Villa defender Shane Lowry come into the starting line up. With

both sides making so many changes fluency was initially difficult to find. But Leandro Bacuna looked willing down the left and he was involved in much of what was good about Villa early on.

Orient's captain for the night David Mooney got his head in the way of a goal-bound effort from the Dutchman after quarter of an hour. Shortly afterwards Jack Grealish, making his first start for Villa, saw a close-range flick blocked by Bradley Pritchard after some determined wing play from Bacuna.

Orient thought their moment had come

in the 67th minute when Mathieu Baudry's downward header looked destined for the top corner but Given produced a superb save to turn the ball on to the bar.

It was all hands to the pump inside the Villa penalty area with seven minutes remaining as Orient substitutes Chris Dag-nall and Vincelot saw shots blocked.

Bent then fired wide after a superb 35-yard pass from Philippe Senderos, before Vincelot headed home Pritchard's left-wing cross at the far post.

The goal was met with angry reactions from a group of Villa supporters.

## Heathens strongest – Clegg

MAX Clegg has labelled Cradley the strongest team in the National League.

The 17-year-old West Yorkshire racer, who is in his second season with the club, says the league title is there for the taking – if they keep a full strength side.

They'll face Devon at Monmore next Tuesday without Matt Williamson who is riding for Premier League side Scunthorpe and Michael Neale will replace him.

Neale will also ride for the Heathens in their appetising Knockout Cup tie with Coventry the following week with Williamson dropping to reserve in September.

Clegg, who won the league with the Heathens last season, is convinced they can do it again.

He said: "I think we've got the strongest team in the National League again this year, and I think we've got what it takes to win the play-off again."

"Obviously you never know exactly what will happen, but we are confident we can go all the way again like we did last year."

"Hopefully we can kick on and have a good final couple of months."

## Blues fume as Black Cats purr

**Blues 0 Sunderland 3**  
SUNDERLAND's late show sent the Black Cats through in the Capital One Cup.

Jordi Gomez, Adam Johnson and Connor Wickham struck in the final 13 minutes to give the Premier League side a 3-0 win.

But Blues were angered they claimed Gomez's opener had gone out.

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# CHRISTIE GIVES YELTZ FIRST WIN

**Barwell 0 Halesowen 1**

**HALESOWEN claimed their first win of the new season in Leicestershire.**

An Ilysedon Christie tap-in was enough to take three points back home to the Black Country.

John Hill opted to leave Ben Haseley out of the starting 11 for the first time since his return from injury, as the striker hasn't scored for the Yeltz this season, and Robert Thompson-Brown was brought into the side.

Neil Mackenzie, Tom Tonks and Joel Kettle all started for the first time this season, as they took Aaron Forde's, Elliott Turner's and Asa Charlton's places in the side.

Tonks had a chance later on as well, as he ran onto Neil Mackenzie's pass and smashed the ball towards goal, but goalkeeper Liam Castle produced a fantastic save to deny him his first goal at this level.

### Volley

Barwell only really had one good chance in the first half, as Danny Haynes kicked the ball across the box to Luke Barlone, who could only volley the ball past the right hand post, and should have done better with the time and space he was given by The Yeltz defence.

But it was Halesowen who would break the deadlock, as Thompson-Brown used his pace to burst down the right wing.

He then played a low cross past the sliding defenders and to Christie, who comfortably tapped the ball into the net on 59 minutes.

Barwell fought back later on, as a scramble in the Yeltz penalty area, resulted with the ball ricocheting off

### Football

the post twice in quick succession, and Barlone had another chance to shoot late on but he could only scuff the ball wide.

The Yeltz were greeted with cheers and celebration at the final whistle, as their first win of the season pushes them up to eighth, and their unbeaten run continues.

**Halesowen Town 1 Frickley Athletic 1**

Danny Bragoli's close range header put the Yeltz on course for the first victory of the season in the 10th minute after Peter Till's corner was flicked on by Ilysedon Christie.

Just before the interval Christie weaved through the Frickley defence to give himself a clear sight on goal, but clipped his final shot over the bar.

Despite Frickley's greater possession early in the second half, it was the Yeltz who went closest to another goal when Asa Charlton's 20 yard shot was tipped over the bar.

The three points of the season still looked secure for the Yeltz until Frickley captain Young scored.

## Double win sees Heathens finish top of the league



Matt Williamson leads Paul Starke and Conor Coles. Picture: John Hipkiss

**Cradley 64 King's Lynn 24**  
CRADLEY have finished top of the National League table for the fourth time in five years after racing to two more comprehensive victories at Monmore Green.

They entered their double header with King's Lynn and Mildenhall knowing two wins by six points or more would see them mathematically seal the top spot.

With that incentive spurring them

on, they put in two professional performances to emerge with two excellent wins and the six required National League points.

The Heathens navigated tricky track conditions early on to emerge with a comfortable 64-24 victory against depleted King's Lynn in the first fixture of the night.

It was an incident-packed meeting which saw the Young Stars hit by the loss of guesting No.1 Ben Morley in

a heat one crash. Despite some early mistakes with falls for Paul Starke and Nathan Greaves plus Max Clegg touching the tapes in heat five, the hosts stormed to a comprehensive win.

**Cradley 55 Mildenhall 31:** Cradley fought hard to confirm the top spot as they stormed to a 55-31 victory over arch rivals Mildenhall. The meeting was cut short by one race due to the Monmore Green curfew.

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